

Magazine: Hostages could be freed soon

BEIRUT (R) — The Beirut-based magazine *Al Shiraa* said Friday a deal under way between France and Iran could lead to the early release of some French hostages held in Lebanon by pro-Iranian militants. The magazine, known for its first report of the 1986 U.S.-Iranian arms-for-hostages deal and for its close links to Iranian officials, quoted diplomats for its report. "Diplomats are talking about a deal between France and Iran which will lead to the release soon of a group of French hostages held in Lebanon," *Al Shiraa* said. "These diplomats refuse to go into details of the deal but say that if it succeeds it will be for the benefit of French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac," it added. The magazine said French Ambassador Paul Blanc was called to Paris recently "where he was briefed on some details of the deal since the embassy will be involved in the release process." *Al Shiraa*'s report came amid talk in Paris that three French hostages might be released as a political tactic ahead of next month's presidential election. Speculation gathered pace Friday when a Frenchman of Lebanese origin suspected of being connected with bombings in Paris was freed from a French jail.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الراي.

Iraq sends Lebanon arms, food

BEIRUT (R) — Iraq has sent a shipload of arms and ammunition to Lebanon's armed forces and presidential guards, security sources said Friday as Baghdad announced the arrival of a consignment of food aid. The sources confirmed a report in Beirut's *Al Safir* newspaper that the 900-ton Greek-registered *George Z* arrived at Beirut port Thursday carrying the weapons. The daily quoted Cypriot shipping sources for its report which said the vessel carried medium and heavy weapons for the army and President Amin Gemayel's guards. The sources said another cargo ship docked at Beirut Friday with 36,000 tonnes of food donated by Baghdad. Iraq's charge d'affaires in Lebanon, Sabbar Al Hadithi, told reporters after meeting Gemayel Friday that food worth \$13 million had arrived and would be distributed by official organisations and charities. "I have met the Lebanese president and conveyed to him the decision of President Saddam Hussein to donate food supplies to the Lebanese people," he said.

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Regent sends good wishes to Bangladesh and Malaysia

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Friday sent a cable to Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad congratulating him on his country's National Day and wishing him continued good health and happiness and the people of Bangladesh further progress and prosperity. The Regent sent another cable to Sultan Mohammad Ismail of Malaysia, congratulating him on assuming his constitutional powers and wishing him happiness and good health.

Arab League, PLO team in Lebanon

BEIRUT (R) — A joint delegation of the Arab League and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) arrived in Lebanon Friday to seek backing for the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories. Arab League Assistant Secretary General Assad Al Assad and PLO representative Yasser Abd Rabbo told reporters at Beirut airport they would have talks with Lebanese officials on ways to support the uprising.

Cheysson calls for peace conference

NEW DELHI (AP) — Claude Cheysson, a member of the Commission of the European Community, said Friday he feared there would be more violence in the Israeli-occupied territories unless an international conference was held to resolve the region's problems. Such a conference should discuss not only the rights of Palestinians and Israelis, but also the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, the status of Jerusalem and the future of Lebanon, he told a news conference. Without an international conference, Cheysson said, "Israel will go further and deeper in an avenue of violence, where violence breeds violence and more violence."

'Vanunu knew risks'

LONDON (R) — Britain's Sunday Times, the newspaper in which former Israeli nuclear technician Mordechai Vanunu told the world his country had the atom bomb, said Thursday it had warned him of the possible consequences of his revelations. "When Vanunu came to the Sunday Times with his story we warned him of the risks he was taking," Sunday Times editor Andrew Neil said in a statement. An Israeli court Thursday convicted Vanunu, 34, of espionage, helping Israel's enemies and disclosing state secrets for telling the London newspaper in 1986 that Israel was producing nuclear warheads. He faces a term of life imprisonment when sentenced Sunday.

Norway calls for U.N. force

OSLO (R) — Norway repeated its call Friday for a U.N. peace-keeping force in the Gulf to help stop attacks on shipping, saying it was willing to contribute. Foreign Minister Thorvald Stoltenberg told reporters: "We will get in touch with Greece, Spain, Japan and the Nordic countries to see if there is interest for a broader U.N. initiative, as well as raising the question with Washington."

Gunman attacks Alitalia pilot in Bombay

BOMBAY (AP) — An attacker shot and wounded the captain of an Italian jetliner Friday after the plane landed at Bombay's airport and tossed two grenades at pursuers before he was captured, authorities said. The assailant fired four shots from an automatic pistol at Vittorio Sanatanelli, who had landed the Alitalia jet, who landed the Alitalia jet a few minutes earlier after a flight from Australia. Police said Sanatanelli and 12 other crew members were climbing onto an airport bus bound for a hotel when they were attacked. Police sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the attacker was identified as Abbas Mohammad Ali Shahadi.

17th Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference concludes

OIC supports Palestinians, backs Saudi moves, urges peace in Gulf

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter
with agency reports

AMMAN — Foreign ministers of Islamic countries ended an annual conference here Friday united in extending total support for the Palestinian uprising, calling for an end to the Iran-Iraq conflict and condemning Iran for the July 1987 riots in the Holy City of Mecca.

The Palestinian question and the Arab-Israeli conflict figured high on the resolutions of the 17th conference of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) foreign ministers. The conference dealt with over 70 working papers and proposals submitted by the 45 member states over the past five days.

The final resolutions stressed the need for Islamic states to exert efforts to force Israel to heed United Nations resolutions calling for just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. The resolution on this issue pointed out that just peace have to be based on total Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Al Quds Al Sharif, recognition of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return, to self-determination and to the "establishment of their independent Palestinian state on their national soil with Al Quds as capital and under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), their legitimate and sole representative."

The resolution also denounced the United States policy which "continues to deny the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, to ignore the PLO, their legitimate and sole representative, and refuse to deal with it as a main party to the Arab-Israeli conflict and continue to extend unlimited support to the Zionist enemy in its occupation of the Palestinian and other Arab territories, including the city of Al Quds Al Sharif."

The resolution denounced the United States' use of its right of veto power to prevent the adoption by the U.N. Security Council

U.S. policy assailed

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Jordan Minister Taher Al Masri chairs the closing session of the 17th Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference in Amman Friday (photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

Aziz accuses Iran of anti-OIC propaganda

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz has accused Iran of "not only waging an aggressive war against Iraq but also a war of propaganda against the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC)."

Aziz, commenting on Iran's withdrawal from the 17th conference of OIC foreign ministers held in Amman, told the Jordan Times in an exclusive interview Thursday that a speech delivered by the Iranian delegate to the conference Wednesday night was "full of allegations and twisted

facts and contained attacks on a number of Islamic countries."

"This proves that Iran is not only waging an aggressive war against Iraq, but also a war of propaganda against Islamic countries and the Islamic organisation itself," Aziz said.

Aziz refuted Iranian charges that Iraq used chemical weapons in the Iran-Iraq war. "Iranians are just trying to justify their failures," he said. "They are definitely going to extraordinary measures to try and ward off worldwide protests against Tehran's policies."

"This accusation is only a camouflage for the (Iran's) ex-

pansionist policies," he said.

In reply to a question on the latest round of the "war of the cities" between Baghdad and Tehran, Aziz said missile attacks on cities were "not a new phenomenon in the war." He said that Iran had attacked Baghdad in 1980 and had been firing missiles at Baghdad periodically since then. "We showed a great deal of tolerance," he said "but they went too far."

Aziz said Iraq does not want to continue the war but that Iran refuses to accept any peace proposal which would contribute to a just and comprehensive peace in the area.

"We do not want to escalate this war, but Iran has refused to accept (United Nations Security Council) Resolution 598, and has continuously attacked our cities," Aziz said. "One has to remember that we have to preserve some dignity."

Aziz cited last July's Iranian riots in Mecca as example of Iran's disregard for Islamic unity. "Iran organised the demonstrations to destabilise the process of

Haj and the state of affairs in Saudi Arabia in a clear violation of international laws," he said.

Aziz paid tribute to the Palestinian national uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza and described it as a "historic phenomenon and most dramatic proof that the Palestinians refuse to accept Israel's occupation and will not tolerate it."

Aziz added that "the uprising also shows a genuine quest for

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Correction

AMMAN (J.T.) — The foreign ministry Friday denied international news agency reports, carried by the Jordan Times, that it had channelled to the 17th conference of Islamic foreign ministers a message from Bulgarian Muslim leaders. The message dealt with the issue of Muslims in Bulgaria, and which was the subject of a report that an Islamic contact group had submitted to the conference earlier in the week.

Reagan warns Israel over Saudi missiles

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan warned Israel Friday against a pre-emptive strike against Chinese-built medium-range missiles bought by Saudi Arabia.

"Naturally we would be totally opposed to any such thing and hope that they're not considering any such action," he told reporters at the start of a meeting with President Joaquín Balaguer of the Dominican Republic.

Reagan made the comment in response to a question about a newspaper report that Israel might be considering air strikes against the missiles.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said earlier the United States had no evidence Israel was planning air strikes against the missiles.

"We don't have any indication of any specific action," Fitzwater told reporters.

But he said Washington was urging "calm and consideration on both sides."

The Washington Post said Friday that U.S. intelligence agencies reported Israel has been conducting unusually intensive low-level bombing practice runs.

It said the practices might for-

shadow a pre-emptive strike on the CSS-2 class missiles with a 3,500-kilometre range Saudi Arabia has bought from Peking.

But, it said, the practice runs might have nothing to do with the missiles and be connected instead with raids on Palestinian targets in Lebanon over the past few days.

U.S. officials, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters Washington was concerned that the introduction of such weapons into the Middle East might have a destabilising effect.

But they said Saudi Arabia had "assured us at the highest level categorically" it was not seeking nuclear warheads for the missiles and Peking had also given categorical assurances it would not supply them.

They said Washington's concern was not about the missiles, but the possibility the Saudis would tip them with nuclear warheads.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak warned Thursday that an Israeli attack on the Saudi missile launchers would "blow up the entire peace process" in the Middle East.

King, Queen arrive in Oman

MUSCAT (Agencies) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor arrived here Friday for a short visit after concluding a four-day state visit to Islamabad.

Their Majesties were received upon arrival here by Sultan Qaboos Ibn Sa'id of Oman and other senior Omani officials. Accompanying the King were Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

Upon departure from Islamabad earlier, King Hussein sent Pakistani President Zia Ul Haq a cable thanking him and his wife for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to them and the accompanying delegation. The



HM King Hussein

King expressed his happiness for taking part in the Pakistani National Day celebrations. The King said his talks with the Pakis-



Sultan Qaboos Ibn Sa'id

tani president and their identical views demonstrate the strong relations between the two countries.

Israeli troops kill 2 Palestinians, wound 26 and continue arrests

RAMALLAH, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers shot dead two Palestinians, wounded 26 others and arrested about 80 in fierce clashes in and around the occupied West Bank city of Hebron Friday, Arab and Israeli sources said.

The two dead — Walid Al Fattah, 18, and Khalid Al Marqat, 20 — were killed when troops opened fire on hundreds of stone-throwing demonstrators in Tarqumiya village near Hebron, according to hospital sources quoted by news agencies.

Clashes broke out afterwards in Hebron and another nearby town, Idna, and Hebron's Alia hospital said it treated a total of 26 people from the three trouble spots for gunshot wounds and beatings.

The Tarqumiya incident came after Palestinians attacked soldiers in a school converted into a makeshift army headquarters.

In Hebron, troops shot at Arabs who pelted soldiers with rocks from the roof of a mosque and raised the Palestinian flag after Muslim prayers.

About 30 soldiers stormed the Al Haras mosque, yanked the flags down and lined up dozens of Palestinian teenagers against a wall. The army said 50 Arabs were arrested.

Friday's fatalities brought to 111 the number of Palestinians killed since the uprising began Dec. 8, according to U.N. figures. One Israeli soldier has been killed.

U.N. tries to save Afghan plan

GENEVA (Agencies) — U.N. mediator Diego Cordovez fought Friday to save an Afghan peace plan after the superpowers failed to resolve a dispute over Soviet military supplies to Afghanistan, official and diplomatic sources said.

"We are putting up a fight to try to save the agreement," one official source quoted by Reuters said.

Diplomats had looked to this week's meeting between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Washington to break the stalemate in the Geneva talks, which are designed to secure the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

The Soviet Union has already said it will pull out its estimated 115,000 troops from Afghanistan but the United States and Pakistan have insisted that it stops military aid too.

In an attempt to settle the Soviet aid issue, Cordovez has asked the superpowers to send more senior negotiators than the two in Geneva — U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Robert Peck and Soviet Ambassador-at-large Nikolai Kozyrev, sources close to the talks told Reuters.

Soviet and U.S. spokesmen said they were unable to say whether higher officials would be coming.

Pakistan's chief delegate, Zain Noorani, told reporters: "Certainly it would help... if people were to come to try to tackle the issue of symmetry in Geneva."

Shultz meets two PNC members today

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will meet Saturday with two leading Americans who are closely involved in Palestinian politics, the State Department said Friday.

Edward Said, a professor at Columbia University in New York, and Ibrahim Abu Lughud, a professor at Northwestern University in Chicago, are members of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian parliament-in-exile, and closely linked to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The brief State Department announcement identified Said and Abu Lughud only as "prominent Americans with an intimate knowledge of contemporary Middle Eastern politics."

Said and Abu Lughud could not be reached immediately for

comment on what they intended to discuss with Shultz and whether they had sought PLO approval for the meeting.

The State Department said Shultz and the two men would discuss the U.S. approach to the Middle East peace process, presumably the latest American peace plan.

Before the State Department made its announcement, Israel Radio said Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was angered by Shultz's decision to hold the meeting and regarded it as a breach of the U.S. undertaking not to deal with the PLO.

The Reagan administration is bound by law not to have contacts with the PLO on the grounds that the group has not renounced

(Continued on page 5)

Palestinians bury victims of Israeli raid vowing revenge

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Angry Palestinians Friday buried six of the eight women killed in an Israeli air raid during an emotional funeral, vowing to avenge their death and to continue their fight against the Zionist state.

"We shall avenge your death," "We shall kill all those who killed you. Your blood will not go cheap," the mother of one of the dead girls said.

The coffins, draped in Palestinian flags, were driven to Beirut in ambulances from the southern port city of Sidon, where the eight were killed Wednesday in an Israeli air strike on the Fateh Revolutionary Council (FRC) led by Abu Nidal.

About 3,000 Palestinians, men, women and children, carrying Palestinian and Lebanese flags marched in the funeral procession from west Beirut's Mar Elias refugee camp to the cemetery.

The six buried Friday were among eight girls and two men killed in Wednesday's raid.

The planes struck again Thursday and police said five people were injured but Palestinian officials imposed a news blackout on damage and casualties.

A senior FRC official, Mansour Hamdan, promised the mourners revenge against Israel and the United States.

"We promise you that the retaliation will not be long in coming. We shall set light to the ground beneath the feet of the Zionists and we shall not, my brothers, forget that the planes which shelled our camps were American," he said.

Officials said Lebanon told its ambassador at the United Nations Thursday to lodge a complaint expressing Lebanon's "strong rejection of the excuses used by Israel to justify its aggression."

Response farming: From intuition to computers

Nermeen Murad interviews Dr. Ian Stewart on his 'response farming' method

AMMAN — Development in technology has reshaped all aspects of our life, making people less and less dependent on the normal flow of nature. But one man felt that a serious study of nature and a close analysis of its trends, using modern technological means, may pay off in the long run.

Dr. Ian Stewart, president of the world Hunger Alleviation Through Response Farming (WHARF), a non-profit organisation, introduced through his "response farming" a method of forecasting rain and making appropriate agronomic responses at the farm level.

According to Stewart, this system allows farmers to choose crops and determine acreages, along with seeding and initial fertilisation rates, all on the basis of the date of onset. The date of onset is determined by the time when there is sufficient rain water in the ground to soak the soil down to the depth of the seed, enough to germinate the seed and maintain the seedling.

Response farming is most beneficial to small farmers who face the greatest risks. According to Stewart, small farmers have grown in numbers and more of them have been forced deeper into drought-prone zones and at the same time further from the infrastructure that might provide famine relief in an emergency.

Stewart told the Jordan Times that if food production in these marginal rainfall areas could be stabilised and increased, tragedy on the land could be averted and internal solutions to the hunger problems of refugees and the urban poor greatly strengthened.

According to Stewart, "farmers in Jordan understand and practice this method by instinct." He added that his role was to make it more clear so that they would make better jobs of their farming.

Stewart said that clarifying this process to Jordanian farmers aids them in making their farming process more economical. "They would determine how much fertilizer to use and when is the best time for its use; also it helps them decide how much machinery they need, thus eliminating unnecessary expenditure."

Certain areas

Farmers interviewed by the Jordan Times maintained that this method would only work in certain areas of Jordan, and not in the Jordan Valley.

One farmer said that although this method has always been adopted by farmers in the area it remains "old fashioned and would not keep up with the level of development in Jordan."

He added that farmers who asked to adopt the rain-fed irrigation method had become so frustrated with their inability to control the water that they moved to areas that have more water.

An agricultural engineer who has a masters degree in rain-fed irrigation maintained that this

method would bring best results if coupled with supplementary irrigation as in the eastern areas of Jordan where it has been tried and has proved successful.

The engineer added that 70 per cent of Jordan's land is not farming land and therefore farmers had to make the best out of what was left. He added that although the idea was in theory good, in Jordan it would be difficult to reach the date of onset since 80 per cent of the water evaporates and only 20 per cent of the rain water is absorbed into the earth.

All those interviewed by the Jordan Times agreed, though, that the adoption of this method would almost guarantee "better financial return when successful, because the expenses would be lower."

Stewart is also working on the Jordan highlands agricultural development project (JHADP), administered by U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) mission and the Jordanian Ministry of Agriculture. His role is to hold seminars with different agricultural officials and professors to them. He provides the Ministry of Agriculture with a computer programme which holds a climatal data bank that is being used to provide information on response farming.

Farmers do respond

In a case study for Jordan prepared by him, Stewart maintains that Jordanian cereal farmers traditionally practice some of the tenets of response farming and that wheat and barley farmers in Jordan delay planting until they have assessed the early rains, and adjust the planted area accordingly; with high rainfall they expand the planted area and with low rainfall they contract it.

In the case study, a graph indicated how wheat and barley fields in Irbid, Balqa and south Amman varied with rainfall over the nine-year period from 1968/69 to 1976/77.

The table shows that Jordanian cereal farmers are already taking the first step in response farming. When onset of the rainy season for wheat or barley production is delayed, they plant a smaller area, because experience has taught them that late onset means little or no profit, and a greater probability of failure.

According to Stewart, farmers planting wheat in scarce rainfall seasons do this only to cover their families basic food needs.

In answer to a question about the wisdom behind subsidising farmers in Jordan and the support the government has been according the agricultural sector, Stewart said "I have strong feelings about this, and basically this is the right thing to do."

But he added that "a line has to be drawn at a reasonable point."

According to Stewart, "it is very intelligent to develop agriculture and to try to be able to reach self sufficiency in foodstuff, even if one is able to buy the

same product from outside at a lower price."

Stewart said that certain caution had to be taken in Jordan's food security programme. So far, Stewart explained, Jordan had been backing wheat planting, but it should not be planted every year.

Stewart added that the Ministry of Agriculture should also be "more sensitive to the real problems of local farmers," since they remain the authority on what is best for their farming land.

Steadfast farmers

The government has been asking farmers to plant on a certain date without calculating rainfall, and farmers have so far refused to adhere to this policy. According to Stewart the farmers were right in their stand because in most cases "planting before rain results in 50 per cent failure."

"There is a tendency in the Government farming policies towards aggregation of the land." The idea behind aggregation is to control all the different farming units and incorporate them into one plan administered by a single body, in this case the government. Stewart stressed that he is not against the idea, but he also added that this must be done under the leadership of the local farmers and not the officials who formulate policies from offices.

Stewart explained that "someone told me that the government should take over all the farming

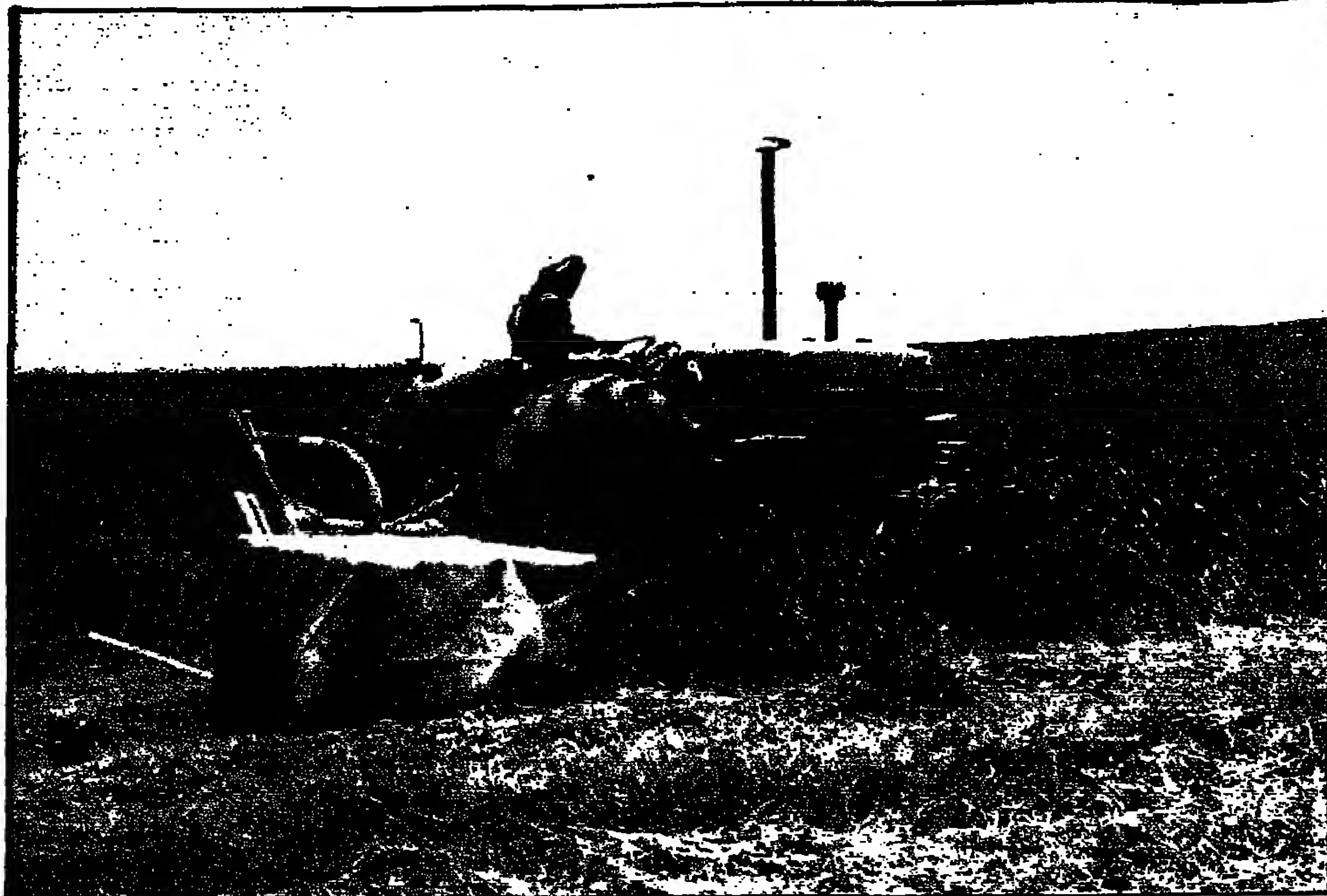
land and farm it themselves because they know how to do it better." Stewart added that "this is not correct thinking, because people working in the land know more about farming than office farmers."

WHARF's first objective is to alleviate hunger among subsistence farmers, and response farming provides a means for these farmers to obtain life-sustaining crop yields even during seasons of low rainfall. Stewart added that over longer periods, it enables them to more than double their average production.

Analysis of available weather records, primarily rainfall and evaporation, coupled with suitable research findings concerning crops and soils, permits evaluation of the suitability of a given crop for production at the planning site, and defines the earliest and latest acceptable dates of onset of the rain for growing the study crop.

These studies also quantify the initial rainfall which should be taken by the farmer as the signal to plant his crop, and reveal that date of onset of the rain is correlated with total season rain; hence it pinpoints ranges of dates properly termed early, late and too late for planting, and quantifies early season rainfall amounts which can indicate whether a good, fair or poor season is in store.

According to Stewart, the application of this information occurs at three stages:



The date of onset of the rain triggers recommendations to farmers on the date of planting, seeding rates and initial fertilizer application.

Rainfall totals, 50 days after the date of onset in the short period rain and 30-40 days into the long season rain, permit categorisation of season

type and determine farmer recommendation on thinning to desired stands and on adjustment of nitrogen fertilizer levels through side dressing.

According to Stewart, "the date of onset alone can effectively guide farmers in deciding whether to emphasise high or low water requirement crops."

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — March 26, 1988

8:30 Yes Prime Minister
New Series

9:00 Variety Show

10:20 Feature Film
All The Kind Strangers

Starring:
Stacy Keach
Samantha Eggar
John Savage
Robby Benson

This tale of quiet terror begins with photographer-journalist Keach giving a young boy a ride to his secluded farmhouse. There he meets the rest of the kids and a young woman whom they call mother.

Sun. — March 27, 1988

8:30 My Husband and I

My Husband and I, starring Molly Sugden plays Nora Powers, head of personnel at a big advertising Agency.

9:10 Doc. — Coastean

10:20 Secret Army

The Execution

Spring 1945. The Germans find

time for their own retributions. Monique and Madeleine have to make the most important decisions of their lives. The Second World War is over.

Mon. — March 28, 1988

8:30 Are You Being Served

9:10 Rags to Riches

10:20 Feature Film
A Star is Born

Fredric March, Janet Gaynor, Adolphe Menjou, Lionel Stander. Here's the original version of the poignant, dramatic story about a famous Hollywood star whose popularity declines as his young actress-wife reaches superstardom. March, as the matinee idol on the skids, and Gaynor, as his loyal wife, are perfectly cast and keep the story from slipping into cheap sentimentality. The direction by William Wellman hits the right note, and the fine screenplay by Dorothy Parker, Alan Campbell and Robert Carson reveals a great deal about Hollywood in the 30's.

Tue. — March 29, 1988

8:30 No Place Like Home

9:10 Standby.... Light!

Camera! Action!

The episode is about the famous star Roger Moore, focusing at his films and his role as "James Bond."

10:20 Murder She Wrote
No Laughing Murder

After the male manager quits, Janet runs the shop efficiently with the help of Chloe, a new employee with an eye-catching figure, but doubts that the chauvinist owner Mr. Compton, would promote a woman. Then Compton makes an announcement that tempts Janet to seek a new image.

Wed. — March 30, 1988

8:30 Sweet Surrender
The Holdens Go To Dinner

9:00 Doc. — Horizon

The Brain: How it works

9:35 Tales of the Unexpected
Skeleton in the Cupboard

Executive Robert Smythe (Charles Dance) is an ambitious man on his way to the top. He's horrified to learn that a stranger is trying to trace him, and ruthlessly determines to cover up a guilty secret from his past. But,



'Murder in Three Acts' — Peter Ustinov stars as Hercule Poirot, Thursday at 10:20

by macabre coincidence, his wife Margaret (Zoe Wanamaker) confesses that she, too, has something to hide.

10:20 Fields of Fire

Bluey and Dusty are married in Brisbane — but Bluey immediately joins the army with Tiny and the gang and is shipped off to fight in North Africa. Dusty, heart-broken, becomes a nurse.

Thur. — March 31, 1988

8:30 Kate and Allie

9:10 Rags to Riches

10:20 Feature Film
Agatha Christie's

Murder in Three Acts

Starring:
Peter Ustinov
Tony Curtis
Emma Samms

In Acapulco world-famous detec-

tive Hercule Poirot must solve the seemingly impossible murder of a reverend and the subsequent poisoning of an eminent neurologist.

Fri. — April 1, 1988

8:30 Growing Pains

9:10 Magnum

10:20 Falcon Crest

11:10 Richman, Poorman

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:30 Programme Review
16:30 The Bazaar
16:30 Eureka
17:10 How Things Work
17:25 The Invaders
17:25 Olympic Games
18:05 The Story of Mowgli
19:00 Message from Iraq
19:15 Family programme
19:45 Programme review
20:30 News in Arabic
20:35 Arabic News
21:35 Programme on Jordan
21:40 Arabic play
22:10 News Summary in Arabic
22:10 Play comic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Florence ou la vie de chateau
19:00 News in French
19:15 French varieties: Un DB de plus
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Yes, Prime Minister
21:00 Magazine Zero One
21:10 Saturday Variety Show
22:00 News in English
22:20 Feature film: "All the Kind Strangers"

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 8560 KHz. SW
Tel: 77111-19

07:00 Morning Show
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:00 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 Hiwille: The Story of Mowgli
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
12:30 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:30 Jordan Weekly
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals/Old favourites
17:00 Special Feature
17:30 Good Old Days
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 Newsdesk/Music
19:30 Date with a Star
20:30 Young Sound
20:30 Discovering Music
21:00 Play of the Week
22:00 Country Music
23:00 Classical Music
24:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk

06:30 Here's Humph
06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial News
07:00 World News 07:00 24 Hours
07:00 News Summary 07:30 Personal View
07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk
08:30 Meridian 09:00 World News
09:00 24 Hours News Summary 09:30
From the Weeklies 09:45 Network UK
10:00 World News 10:00 Reflections
10:15 A Jolly Good Show 11:00 World
News 11:00 British Press Review 11:15
The World Today 11:30 Financial
News: Sports Roundup 11:45 Personal
View 12:00 News Summary: Here's
Humph 12:15 Letter from America
12:30 People and Politics 13:00 World
News 13:00 News About Britain 13:15
Chain Reaction 13:30 Meridian 14:00
Radio Newsdesk 14:15 Multitask 3
14:45 Sports Roundup 15:00 World
News 15:00 Twenty-Four Hours News
Summary: UK 15:45
Good Books 16:00 News Summary:
Album Time 16:30 Sportsworld 17:00
Radio Newsdesk 17:15 Sportsworld
18:00 World News 18:00 Commentary
18:15 Sportsworld 19:00 News Summary:
Sportsworld 19:45 Sports
Roundup 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Play
of the Week: Remembrance 21:00
News Summary followed by Happy
Families 22:00 World News 22:00
Twenty-Fours: News Summary 22:30
Meridian 23:00 News Summary followed
by Tech Talk 23:15 Capriccio
23:30 People and Politics 24:00 World
News 06:00 From Our Own Correspondent
06:25 Book Choice 06:30 News
Ideas 06:40 Reflections 06:45 Sports
Roundup 07:00 World News 07:00
Commentary 07:15 Nature Notebook
07:30 Anything Goes

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565,
11740, 11925 and 12210 Hz

06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 07:00
News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News
08:10 VOA Morning 09:00 News 10:00
News 10:10 VOA Morning 11:00 News
11:10 News 11:20 American Viewpoints
11:30 Press Conference, USA 12:00
News 12:10 Music, USA 12:30
Editorial 12:55 Editorial 13:00 News
23:10 Communications World 23:30
Weekend Magazine

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

★ Egyptian Book Exhibition at the Professional Association Union.

★ An art exhibition by Olivia Pallard at Alia Art Gallery (until March 28).

★ Book exhibition at the Comprehensive Commercial Centre (Tower Building), Jabbal Amman, 3rd Circle (permanent).

★ General book exhibition at the Professional Associations Complex in Shmeisani.

★ Book exhibition at the University of Jordan's Faculty of Arts.

★ Art exhibition by Samia Zarour at the Jordan National Museum of Fine Arts (until end of March).

★ Art exhibition by Mohammad Bools and Mounira Al Tumsiah at the Housing Bank Gallery (runs through April 19).

★ An exhibition of etchings by British artist David Hockney at the British Council. There is also a showing of video film entitled "Hockney" during the exhibition (until March 27).

★ First School Arts Exhibition at Ahmad Tossan School. Open during school hours until June 1988.

★ Kevin Eubanks Trio (guitarist, bassist and drummer) to perform contemporary jazz (23 March - 29 March).

★ Exhibition for the Spanish artist Maria Dolores Travesedo at the Spanish Cultural Centre.

★ From Gutenberg to Electronics Day at 11:30 a.m. (until 11 April) Goethe Institute.

★ British Illustration from Caxton to Chloé (runs through April 30) at British Council.

FILMS

★ The Passionate, 1981 (German — English subtitled) at 8:00 p.m. at the Goethe Institute.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Tuesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 730 p.m.

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.

Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club. Jabbal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Amman, Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Lweibdeh, Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Hussein, Tel. 661757.

Terrasanta Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Lweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 623366.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabbal Amman, Tel. 625383, chaplain's residence tel. 601399.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.

Amman International Church (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 677534.

Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Smir 811295.

Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) International-ecumenical Evangelical Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 822605, Rev. Veli.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon) 815817, 821284.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
07:30 Kuwait (KU)
08:30 Cairo (RJ)
09:30 Damascus (RJ)
09:30 Rome, Madrid (RJ)
09:55 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00 Agaba (RJ)
10:45 Cairo (RJ)
11:35 New York, Vienna (RJ)
17:40 Athens (RJ)
18:05 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:00 Tripoli (RJ)
24:00 Agaba (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

8:45 Belgrade, Istanbul (RJ)
13:00 Kuwait (KU)
13:45 Cairo (RJ)
14:45 Tripoli (RJ)
15:00 Riyadh (SV)
16:35 Cairo (MS)
16:45 Rome (AZ)
23:25 Paris, Damascus (AF)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:15 Agaba (RJ)
07:45 Agaba (RJ)
08:45 Tripoli (RJ)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:30 Athens (RJ)
11:45 Rome, Madrid (RJ)
11:55 Geneva, Brussels (RJ)
12:00 London (RJ)
12:15 Frankfurt (RJ)
12:30 Cairo (RJ)
19:35 Kuwait (RJ)
19:50 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:00 Jeddah (RJ)
20:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

04:45 Istanbul, Belgrade (RJ)
06:30 Frankfurt (BA)
06:30 Cairo, London (BA)
08:30 Beirut (ME)

PRAYER TIMES

04:00 Fajr
05:27 Sunrise
11:41 Dhuhr
15:12 Asr
17:55 Maghreb
19:14 Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Thursday rates

Local sell/buy rates in Jds
Belgian franc 94.8/ 96.6
Dutch guilder 176.5/ 179.6
French franc 58.3/ 59.4
Italian lira 26.8/ 27.3
Japanese yen (for 100) 264/ 269.2
Swedish crown 56.2/ 57.2
Swiss franc 239.8/ 244.4
U.K. sterling pound 613.8/ 626.9
U.S. dollar 335.7/ 341.9
W. German mark 198.1/ 201.9

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be cloudy with chances of thunder showers especially in the northern areas. A decrease in temperature can be expected with south-westerly moderate winds. In Agaba, it will be hazy with northerly moderate winds and rough seas.

Min./max. temp.
Amman 6/ 17
Agaba 14/ 21
Dericin 9/ 20
Jordan Valley 9/ 22

Crown Prince receives 5th medical team from Sudan

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent Thursday received the 5th Jordanian medical team, who returned from Sudan after finishing the first stage of Jordan's assistance programme to Sudan.

Prince Hassan expressed appreciation to the Sudanese people and officials for the support extended to the Jordanian medical teams, "who were received with all appreciation and hospitality."

The Crown Prince also stressed Jordan's interest in supporting Arab brothers, in line with Jordan's firm policy to pursue pan-Arab interests and to achieve Arab solidarity.

Prince Hassan also thanked all Arab and Muslim institutions for their support to the works of the Jordanian National Committee for Supporting the Sudanese People, and pointed out in particular to the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank (IDB), which has pledged sufficient financial support to the committee.

The first phase included the provision of daily medical services, such as medical operations, vaccination, health education, malaria control and protecting the environment.

The first phase also included preparation of studies and designs for the water networks, electrical connections, sanitary facilities and a telecommunication system between the western Sudan airports.

Expansion of Kas Hospital and building a new operation theatre and two patients wards for males and females in addition to outpatient clinics was also part of the first phase.

Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, the committee rapporteur, who was at the airport to receive the 5th medical team, said that the second phase, which includes rehabilitation projects for the western Sudan areas, will be implemented at a later stage following agreement with the Sudanese authorities on the dates.



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi Thursday presents an award to one of the winners of poetry contest at Marj Al Hamam Secondary School (Petra photo)

Ministry to cancel 2-shift system in government schools

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi Thursday said his ministry was planning to cancel the two-shift system, currently used in government schools.

During an open dialogue Thursday in Ajloun district, Hindawi said that the Ministry of Education has set a schedule to implement the new one-shift system within the next five years. "The ministry will have, by then, prepared and completed the construction of new schools and education centres," he added.

The minister called for joining all efforts with regard to enhancing the educational process and to surpass the hurdles imposed on the path to progress and development.

Underlining the importance of trained manpower for better education, the minister unveiled a new unified allowances system for government employees, including teachers, saying it was currently in progress.

Also Thursday, Hindawi inaugurated the Ministry of Education schools' poetry and oration festival which was held at Marj Al Hamam Secondary Vocational School.

Taking part in the festival are 14 students who had already won in poetry and oration contests, held during the scholastic year.

The festival aims to promote the use of Arabic language and develop skills of making orations and poetry writing. At the end of the celebration Hindawi presented winners with awards.

Experts call for reexamination of children's literature

Seminar urges communication with children through all available outlets

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Subsidising children's books, encouraging children's literature in the local press, and communicating with children by all means of available educational outlets, are some of the recommendations that were announced after an intensive two-day seminar on children's literature in Jordan.

The seminar, organised by the National Organisation for the Education of Children, ended Thursday evening calling on the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage to establish children's educational institutions, and for government and private institutions to support resistance literature for Jordanian children.

Emphasising the importance of children's libraries at homes, schools and communities as a whole, as well as emphasising the importance and the development of children's programmes on television and radio were also among the recommendations.

The seminar also called on research studies to be conducted on children's creativity in the country, and classifying children's books and stories to comply with their school curricula.

Undersecretary of the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, and head of the National Association for the Education of Children, Dr. Mohammad Sgour announced at the end of the seminar that an award will be presented to the best Jordanian writer of children's literature in October of every year.

The seminar, held under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, included 18 working papers, eleven of which were presented Thursday. Among the papers introduced was Ribhi Ulayyan's findings of a survey conducted on children's libraries

in Jordan. Based on the findings of the study, Ulayyan outlined the problems facing the thirteen government and private-run children's libraries. He said the budget of all libraries surveyed lacked financial support.

He also found that there was a lack of books and periodicals. Ulayyan discovered a lack of qualified or trained staff (librarians), and found that there was carelessness towards books where they were found torn or unreturned.

He added that in most cases the building or location of libraries were unsuitable, and that they were often too crowded and noisy. The study also found that there was unawareness among both children and their parents on libraries and their function.

At the end of his presentation, Ulayyan suggested that all these problems facing children's libraries be addressed and resolved in order to provide higher quality of educational services to children in Jordan.

Children under occupation

Another paper presented by Hussein Hasanein on the effect of the Israeli occupation on children's literature, suggesting that Arab educational institutions and establishments intensify efforts to execute article 44 of the Arab Children's Rights Convention: "This article stresses the utmost

importance of the welfare of Palestinian children inside and outside the occupied territories, and to support Palestinian institutions that care for the children and support their struggle to regain their legitimate rights."

Hasanein also suggested at the end of his paper that there should be more interest among Arab writers on the Palestinian cause, and studies to be carried out on Palestinian literature and folklore.

He added that there should be support in all possible ways for the development of Palestinian children's literature writers and support for their publication.

The speaker went on to say that there should be translations to and from Arabic of books for children in Palestine, and to urge universities inside and outside the occupied territories to coordinate with Palestinian institutions in the cultural awareness and importance of children's literature.

"There should be work towards publishing and exposing Zionist brutality against Palestinian children. And there should be special sections in our local press that discuss children's issues and problems in the occupied territories," suggested Hasanein, adding that there ought to be a national fund to support writers in the occupied territories.

Effects of foreign culture

An expert librarian at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) Mary Fasheh outlined positive and negative effects of foreign cultures on children's literature in Jordan. She outlined the positive impact of foreign influence from a cultural, scientific, social, ethical, moral, and technical points of view.

Fasheh said from a moral

aspect, many foreign books deal with self reliance, exploration and discovery, reading and organisation. "If these morals are found in foreign books then we accept and respect them," she noted.

From the negative point of view, Fasheh explained that in many translations, there are colloquial, unnecessary expressions and foreign expressions that are printed. She added that sometimes the fantasies and morals of some of those stories could be damaging, adding that there are many "silly subjects" discussed.

Fasheh recommended that there be a serious study conducted on the needs of Jordanian children that cannot be found in local publications. "There should be another study carried out to determine standards and morals of our environment, and to discover what morals we have inherited from past centuries and to update these morals to suit our modern times," she noted.

The expert also suggested that the positive Arabic characteristics — such as generosity, cooperation and loyalty — be evaluated in the existing literature and to use the characteristics that are not there to include them in literature.

"Sexism in children's literature in Jordan" was presented by writer Zuleikha Abu Rishbeh, in which she called on getting rid of sexism in children's literature.

She said that there should be equal representation of male and female personalities and equal distribution of roles among men and women in all aspects of life. "There should be equal distribution of psychological, physical and emotional characteristics, and we must get rid of sexist language in children's literature," Abu Rishbeh said.



SUBEIHI GETS AWARD: Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh Thursday decorated the former Health Ministry Secretary General Subeishi with Jordan's Al Kawkab Medal of the Second Order which was conferred on him by His Majesty King Hussein. Subeishi recently retired after 35 years of service with the ministry (Petra photo)

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

KING FAHD SENDS CABLE: His Majesty King Hussein Thursday received a reply cable from King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia, thanking King Hussein for the heartfelt feelings expressed in his cable to the Saudi monarch at the end of his visit to Riyadh. King Fahd wished King Hussein continued good health and happiness and the Jordanian people further progress and prosperity.

CONDOLENCES: His Majesty King Hussein Thursday delegated Royal Court Secretary General Bassam Al Saket to convey his condolences to Al Fayed family over the death of the late Mansour Al Fayed. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan also delegated Commander of the Badia and Border Police Fawwaz Zaben Abdullah to convey his condolences to Al Fayed family.

REGENT RECEIVES MESSAGE: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Thursday received a message to His Majesty King Hussein from Sierra Leone President Gen. Joseph Saidu Momah. The message was delivered to the Regent by Sierra Leone Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kuroomo during a special audience at the Royal Court.

CABLE TO GREECE: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Thursday sent a cable to Greek President Christos Sartzetakis, congratulating him on his country's Independence Day and wishing him continued good health and happiness and the Greek people further progress and prosperity.

REGENT RECEIVES MINISTERS: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Thursday received Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, in the presence of Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem and the Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Ghafel Jassem Hussein. Prince Hassan also received in separate audiences, Pakistani Minister of Planning, Trade and Development Mahboubul Haq, Somali Foreign Minister Mohammad Ali Hamed and Bangladeshi Foreign Minister Humayoun Choudhury.

SWISS DELEGATION: A Swiss economic delegation led by Ministry of Economy Under Secretary arrived in Amman Thursday to take part in the Joint Jordanian-Swiss Economic Committee meetings, due to open here Saturday.

TABBA' MEETS U.K. ENVOY: Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Hamdi Tabba' Thursday discussed with the British Ambassador to Jordan Anthony Reeve bilateral relations in the fields of commerce and trade and means for further enhancing them.

TIES WITH COMOROS: Higher Education Minister Nassereddin Al Assad Thursday discussed with Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and External Trade in the Comoros Islands, means of enhancing bilateral relations and providing a number of scholarships in Jordan to students from the Comoros.

TV FESTIVAL: Iraqi Culture and Information Minister Latif Nasif Jassem Thursday inaugurated Baghdad Television Festival, which is attended by 495 Arab and international television corporations and companies and some 200 well known artists, including 50 Arab artists.

VISIT TO BRIDGES: A fact-finding mission Friday visited King Hussein Bridge where they were briefed by the police director there on the procedures taken by the Jordanian security forces to facilitate the arrival and departure of people from and to the West Bank, and the difficulties they encounter from the Israeli occupation authorities.

MUFTI GIVES PRIZES: Director General of Noor Al Hussein Foundation In'am Al Mufti has distributed prizes to 11 children who have won in drawing and short story competition.

EGYPTIAN PUBLICATIONS: Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs Secretary General Ahmad Oatani Thursday inaugurated the second exhibition of Egyptian publications held at the Professional Associations Union building.

DRAWING AWARDS: Education Ministry Secretary General Radi Al Waqfi and the Czechoslovak Charge d'Affaires in Amman Emil Hruskevsky Thursday presented awards to six Jordanian children who have won children's drawing competition, organised by the Czechoslovak government. 27 Jordanian children took part in the international drawing competition in 1987.

POLICE ACADEMY: Director of the Police Academy Col. Mohammad Anwar Al Bsoul Thursday graduated non-commissioned officers who have successfully completed two training courses.

HANDICRAFT EXHIBITION: Qasr Education Department in Karak Governorate Thursday held a handicraft and audiovisual aids exhibition at the Rabba Agricultural Secondary School.

TRAINING COURSE ENDS: A training course on letters of credit attended by 24 financial officers from various financial, industrial and commercial institutions in Jordan and Qatar concluded in Amman Thursday.

LECTURE BY SHAER: Dr. Jamal Al Shaer will deliver a lecture on "our pressing issues and means of addressing them" Saturday at the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation's Cultural and Scientific Centre.

Hijazi, Swiss law maker discuss Mideast peace

AMMAN (Petra) — Lower House of Parliament First Deputy Speaker Ismail Hijazi Thursday reaffirmed Jordan's firm stand in calling for an international Middle East peace conference, to be attended by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and the parties involved in the conflict, as the only forum for establishing a just and durable peace in the region.

During a meeting with the Speaker of the Lower House in Swiss canton of Schwyz, Hijazi said King Hussein has been making intensive efforts to convene such a conference, in line with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 and 338.

Hijazi noted that the current uprising in the occupied territories, which has entered its fourth month, "is the natural outcome of the continued Israeli occupation and its brutal measures, which contravene with all international charters and norms and violates the humanitarian law."

On the Iran-Iraq war, Hijazi said the war has expanded to reach other Gulf Arab countries, who are not direct parties to the conflict.

He added that the arrival of external powers to the region constitutes a grave situation and thus poses threat to international peace.

Hijazi also reviewed the history of the parliamentary life in Jordan and stressed that the Upper and Lower Houses translate the aspirations of the Jordanian people.

The guest praised Jordan's sincere efforts to develop friendly ties between both countries and said that King Hussein's recent visit to Switzerland has opened up new scopes of cooperation.

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8,540 students are attending Ain Al Pasha training school

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 8,540 students are receiving vocational education at Ain Al Pasha Vocational Training Centre, 635 of whom are enrolled in long-term training programmes, the centre's Director Farouq Al Nimr said Thursday.

Nimr added that the centre,

which is the largest and which cost some JD 2.5 million, can accommodate 1,200 students in 12 different trades offered to students from the first and second years.

Nimr said that the centre maintains close cooperation with some 500 employers.

Workshop on innovation in educational system ends

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-day workshop on educational developments and innovations, organised by the ministry of education, in cooperation with a pan-Arab regional unit in charge of educational innovations for Arab development, concluded here Thursday.

The workshop focused on the national educational innovations network and Jordan's role in making the educational innovation programme a success.

Participants also discussed the educational innovations programme for development with concentration on development concepts.



FAYEZ RETURNS: Lower House of Parliament Speaker Akel Al Fayed and a Jordanian parliamentary delegation Thursday returned home at the end of a three-day official visit to Egypt, during which he met with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Fayed also met with Egyptian Prime Minister Atel Sedki, Peoples National Assembly Speaker Rifaa Mahjoub and the Shura (Consultative) Council speaker and reviewed with them bilateral relations and the latest developments in the region (Petra photo)

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MAHMOUD AL KAYED
Responsible Editor and Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD
Editor-in-Chief:
RAMI G. KHOURI

Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,
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Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 666265-2
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO
Facsimile: 661242

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: A lasting unity

ISRAEL'S campaigns against Jordan came as a direct result of the current Palestinian people's uprising in the occupied Arab lands and this country's solidarity with the Palestinian people and other peoples seeking freedom. There is no doubt that Jordan's support for the uprising will continue, and that the campaigns would end in total failure. Neither will the support of Arab and Islamic people for this uprising falter, nor will any Arab or Muslim shirk responsibility of backing brothers under oppression and occupation. The neo-Nazis are following all forms of terrorism and repression to stifle the Palestinian resistance and to uproot people seeking to achieve their rights in their own homeland. Israel is confronting this uprising through escalating its oppression and also through evil campaigns against Jordan along with Syria and Iraq and also against the people inside the occupied areas who it hopes to subdue and exterminate. There is no doubt that Arab and Islamic support and backing for the uprising will enable it to continue and that the Palestinians will carry on their fight for freedom, regardless of the Israeli measures and practices. Above all, the national unity between the people on both banks of the River Jordan will remain as strong as ever, thwarting Israel's aims and designs.

Al Dustour: Egypt condemns Israel's atrocities

EGYPTIAN President Hosni Mubarak has expressed his anger at Israel's atrocities in the occupied Arab territories and voiced his total condemnation of Shamir's arrogance and the terrorist nature of his troops. Shamir and the Israeli military machine should realise that they can never impose their will on the region through the use of military might and through blackmail. In remarks on Israel's current attitude, the Egyptian leader said that Israel should not believe that it can impose its tutelage on the Arabs since no Arab country can accept Israel's interference in its internal affairs nor can it succumb to acts of terrorism. Any Arab country has the right to purchase arms and weapons from any source to defend itself against aggression. Therefore, the Arabs can not accept any meddling in their affairs, and they reject Israel's threats and manoeuvres outright. It is time for the Israelis to realise that their oppression against the Arab people can not last for ever, and that the freedom fighters will continue their struggle until freedom is achieved and justice is done.

Sawt Al Shaab: Israel steps up hostility

CONFRONTED by a stepped up resistance from the Palestinian people Israel is resorting to new and more wicked measures to try to impose its will and consolidate its hold on the Arab territories. As if this is not enough, the Israelis are now directing their reprisals and revenge on Palestinians living outside the occupied territories by launching raids on their refugee camps in Lebanon. The Israelis who are desperately trying to escape world community's criticism and condemnation, are trying to divert world public attention from the atrocities and the crimes committed inside the occupied Arab areas to something happening abroad. Over the past two days the Israelis have been launching one aggression after another on the Lebanese and the Palestinians in southern Lebanon with brutality unprecedented under the Nazi rule in Europe. Israel's arrogance has even gone beyond that, and in the past few days it has been issuing threats against Saudi Arabia for arming itself with weapons to defend its territory.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Israeli diversion

ISRAEL'S leaders are now involved in a campaign of threats against Saudi Arabia for possessing missiles to defend itself in a bid to escape world anger because of Israeli atrocities against the Arab population in Palestinian land. Israel which hopes to divert the world's attention from the situation inside the occupied Arab territories, is claiming that such missiles could be used against Israel. Another Israeli campaign being launched at the moment is directed against Syria which Israel says possesses chemical weapons which could strike any part of Israel, and that Israel is not in the habit of waiting long before carrying out a pre-emptive strike. Both threats are considered as an aggression on the sovereignty of both Arab countries and the Arab Nation at large. The Arabs should view such threats with seriousness in the light of Israel's evil nature and in view of its previous attack on the Iraqi nuclear plant.

Al Dustour: Exemplary relations

KING Hussein and Pakistani President Zia Ul Haq exchanged speeches at a banquet in Islamabad renewing pledges that their countries will maintain cooperation in all fields. King Hussein told his host about Jordan's views and policies with regard to the situation in the occupied Arab land and reiterated the Kingdom's demand for holding an international conference on the Middle East. But since Pakistan and Iran maintain strong relations, the King urged his host to exert all possible efforts for using his good offices for stopping the Gulf war and ending the bloodshed. The King paid tribute to Pakistan for mediating to end the war in Afghanistan so that security and stability can return to that country. The King's visit is important on the Arab and Islamic levels and his talks with the Pakistani leader are aimed at helping to defuse tension in the Arab and Islamic world. Jordan and Pakistan maintain exemplary relations and together they can contribute positively towards the establishment of peace.

The Likud has no agenda for lasting peace

By David Krivine

The following article is reprinted from the Israeli newspaper, The Jerusalem Post.

PRIME MINISTER Yitzhak Shamir returns from Washington in an up-beat mood. He has browbeaten the Americans. Labour leader Shimon Peres would have caved in, but the Likud did not flinch. Unlike our football team in the Antipodes, the stalwart front-line of Shamir, Arens and Milo netted all the goals in the Yankee stadium. Except that this was not a sports match, and the enemy was not the Americans. As President Reagan pointed out laconically, whoever says no to the Shultz peace-talk recommendations "need not answer to us; they need to answer to themselves and their people as to why they turned down a realistic and sensible plan to achieve negotiations."

What the prime minister has done is pass the buck. The proposals that he refused to approve or reject will be tabled before the nation at the next elections. The issue facing the voter is not how international shall the international conference be, nor what kind of time-table is needed for the talks. The question to be answered will be plain and blunt: Territories for peace — yes or no. If the answer is yes, that means yes to the Shultz plan. If it is no, the secretary of state's carefully drafted procedure for peace bargaining can be thrown into the waste-bin. There is to be no bargaining and no peace.

Yet Shamir insists that peace is what he wants, and all his fellow party members say the same — including those who insist that one of the clauses in the peace treaty must provide for the transfer of all Arab inhabitants out of the country, bag and baggage. Shamir does not go so far; but one thing should be made clear to all citizens before they go to the polls. As long as the Likud stays in power, even under its least frenetic leadership, peace is not on the agenda.

The Likud is not prepared to

sacrifice anything. Its autonomy plan does not reduce the benefits that Israel enjoys under the status quo, on the contrary: It increases them. It gives us sovereignty on the cheap. We shall go on ruling over the whole of Palestine, while shaking off responsibility for part of the population — the Arab part. Their poverty will cease to be our concern (if it ever was) thanks to the simple device of pretending they do not exist.

The Likud argue that the Alon plan, which surrenders Israeli sovereignty over the bulk of the occupied territories, is not acceptable to the Arabs. They affect to believe on the other hand that their autonomy plan which offers the Arabs no sovereignty at all — leaving them with no real government, Arab or Israeli — is negotiable. Logic is not the right-wingers' strong point.

And yet do we really have to give up the territories? After all, Palestine is the national home of the Jewish people. The Arabs possess 22 national homes, nearly all of which attained sovereignty within living memory. There happens to be a small overflow of Arab inhabitants in Palestine; is that to stop the fulfilment of Zionist aspirations? Are the Jews to be prevented, by the chance presence of a couple of million strangers in the land, from achieving their national redemption?

Of course not, our rights are paramount; and sure enough we adopted hard-line policies to carve out a living space for ourselves in the Holy Land. We emptied the area that became Israel in 1949 of three-quarters of its non-Jewish inhabitants. Most of them fled the country, that is true; but not because they had decided to live elsewhere. They wanted to come back and we did not let them — until a peace treaty was negotiated, which did not happen. The peace treaty with Egypt makes no mention of re-settling refugees inside the Green Line. There has been an exchange of populations. The Jews exiled from the Arab coun-

tries replaced the Arabs exiled from Israel. It is a fair accomplishment. But that is only half the battle, say Gula Cohen and persons of her ilk. What about the Arabs on the other side of the Green Line? Should they be allowed to prevent the redemption of the Jewish people?

Certainly not — but they don't. There is a gap in our thinking here, we are ignoring our own achievements. The Jewish people are not homeless any more, they have already been redeemed. The Arabs of the territories present no obstacle to anything.

Two new realities have come to the fore during the 20 years since the 1967 war. The first is that our administration of the occupied territories has broken down. It is impossible to govern an alien people if, willingly or reluctantly, they accept foreign domination. The Indians in their vast sub-continent bowed to British imperial rule for 150 years. The Arabs in the territories did something like that for 20 years. But paternalistic systems cease to work when the subjugated population awakens from its slumbers, discovers the nationalistic passion and demands self-government; as the Indians did in the course of time, and as the Palestinians are doing now.

This brings us to the second new reality that has emerged. We do not need Judea, Samaria or Gaza. We are firing tear-gas and rubber bullets and wielding staves to retain control of territories we have no use for.

Had world Jewry decided that life in the diaspora is a disaster and that immigration to Israel is a matter of life and death, we would not today be facing an Arab demographic problem; it is the Arabs who would be facing a Jewish demographic problem. If millions of Jews had surged into Israel from the West (as the early Zionist leaders assumed they must), there would be no question of giving up any portion of Mandatory Palestine. We would need it all ourselves.

As it is, the West Bank and



News item: Kissinger says Israel should have banned press from the occupied territories at the start of the uprising.

Gaza have become a burden, demoralising the nation and wrecking its economy. Nobody in his senses wants to live there. The authorities have cajoled people into settling the new villages by calling on their fanaticism and bribing them through the provision of cheap housing. The size of the Jewish population in Israel is to all intents and purposes static; we do not have enough Jews to fill the Galilee and the Negev. What need is there to dispute with the Arabs over a zone that they densely inhabit and that we are unable to populate other than sparsely, even if we want to?

There is the historic Jewish claim to holy cities like Nablus and Hebron; but they remain holy even if they do not fall into Israeli hands. We do not have to check the truth of that with Arafat, enough to accept an opinion from the chairman of the Knesset Finance Committee, Rabbi Avraham Shapira of Agudat Yisrael. He will tell anyone who wants to listen that the destiny of the occupied territories can safely be left to the Messiah when he comes.

We may have a formula here that happily serves the purpose of all sides. Let us make peace with the Palestinians (including proper border adjustments and adequate

military safeguards), and let us withdraw from the disputed territories — until the Messiah comes. The Orthodox cannot take exception to that. Nor will, I am sure, the Palestinians.

LETTERS

Unity for Cypriots

To the Editor:

HAVING in mind the recent increased interest in the Cyprus problem, I would like to offer, through your esteemed newspaper, some comments on it.

My country, Cyprus, aspires to peace. Throughout these years (since 1974), we have tried hard to arrive at a peaceful solution that will safeguard the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and non-alignment of the Republic of Cyprus. The solution of the Cyprus problem is the most basic objective of the Government of Cyprus under the newly elected President of the Republic of Cyprus Mr. George Vassiliou.

However, it is only in conditions of freedom and unity and without foreign interference that Greek-Cypriots and Turkish-Cypriots can cooperate harmoniously and build a happy future. The withdrawal of the Turkish troops, of the colonist settlers and the demilitarisation of the Republic of Cyprus with the necessary guarantees and freedoms would by themselves give a sense of security to all the people of Cyprus and at the same time facilitate the restoration of the conditions of cooperation and unity of the country and the people.

We aim at a solution in conformity with the United Nations Charter and resolutions, as well as the resolutions of the Non-Aligned Movement. We want peace and for this reason the solution to be found must not be such as to become a starting point for a new tragedy.

There is no denying that stability and peace in Cyprus may well contribute to the prevalence of peaceful coexistence in our region.

Nicolas D. Macris
Ambassador of Cyprus
Amman

Khomeini's divide and rule strategy

By Maurice Cavey

WHILE the world awaits Iran's next moves in its war with Iraq, the attention of the regime in Tehran has been focused on an altogether different matter. Recent rulings by Ayatollah Khomeini have expanded the powers of the state and his own powers as the embodiment of *Velayat-e Faqih* (vice-regency of the jurists) and constitute his most significant intervention in internal affairs for several years.

The latest such ruling, contained in a letter to Iranian officials on 6 February, announced the formation of a special "assembly" to resolve differences of opinion between the Majlis (parliament) and the Council of Guardians, the body charged with seeing all parliamentary bills conform to Islamic law. The assembly will consist of the six theologians who are members of the Council of Guardians, counterbalanced by President Khamenei, Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, Prime Minister Musavi, Chief Justice Musavi Khoenibi. Khomeini has also included his secretary, Tavassoli. His son Ahmad will be present as an observer and a link between the assembly and his father.

The new ruling confirms indications that Khomeini is now backing attempts to push through economic and administrative reforms that have been blocked by conservative elements in the Council of Guardians. His letter emphasised the need to uphold the interests of the poor against "the American version of Islam," and Prime Minister Musavi subsequently told the cabinet that the Imam was concerned over the possible resurgence of an American-style system "leaning toward capital and capitalists." More explicitly, a Tehran radio commentary said the Imam's recent rulings have removed "fundamental obstacles" to the resolution of socio-economic problems, stressing that there should no longer be any laxity and hesitation in drafting legislation to resolve the issues.

Khomeini's letter followed three earlier rulings that gave the government scope to expand its power over the economy, overriding objections by the Council of Guardians, and insisted on the absolute nature of Khomeini's own power as God's supreme jurist. In the first of these, on 7 December, Khomeini ruled decisively in favour of the labour minister's request that the state be entitled to impose "obligatory

regulations" on private "units" that use public facilities and services. Rafsanjani subsequently explained that the regulations will oblige employers to comply with provisions of the labour act that protect workers' interests. The political implications became more evident with Khomeini's second ruling on 23 December in response to a letter from the Council of Guardians objecting to the first ruling, which the Council claimed undermined existing economic relationships, including sharecropping. Khomeini stressed the state's powers to enforce regulations by withdrawing public services from anyone who fails to comply with legislation. He warned the Council not to pay attention to "rumours circulated by irresponsible profiteers" and enemies of the Islamic Republic.

Conservatives in the Council of Guardians had clearly lost out in their attempts to block government legislation on a range of domestic issues. The weakened position of the Guardians was highlighted when, in a 13 January meeting with Khomeini, Council secretary Ayatollah Safi acknowledged that the Council considers itself "subordinate to governmental decrees." Council spokesman Ayatollah Emami Kashani also announced that the Guardians would approve the labour bill. Meanwhile supporters of reforms hailed the Imam's rulings as having cleared the way for the enactment of long-delayed legislation. A remarkably frank Tehran radio commentary on 13 January noted that Khomeini's rulings had come at a time of great "anxiety" about the fate of the revolution and when all its "fundamental projects" had come to a standstill. Iranian officials and planners must now pass "decisive laws for the implementation of social justice," the commentator said.

Meanwhile, Khomeini issued a third ruling that had far wider implications. In a letter to President Khamenei on 7 January, the Ayatollah made the extraordinary claim that through the authority conferred on it by the *Velayat-e Faqih*, the government has the power to override all "secondary" injunctions of Islam, including prayers, fasting and the *Hajj* pilgrimage. The letter was also unusual in that it rebuked Khamenei for having misinterpreted Khomeini's ideas on the subject of *Velayat-e Faqih* during a 1 January sermon. In an otherwise uncontentious Friday prayers address, the president

had argued that prayers, fasting and *Hajj* are not part of the "general affairs" of the country which come under the control of the *Velayat-e Faqih*. Later, in an apparent exercise in damage limitation, Khamenei meekly expressed his agreement with the Imam's views on the absolute powers of the *Velayat-e Faqih*, telling worshippers on 22 January that "when the supreme jurist issues an order based on the interests of Islam and society, then the order is from God."

The political damage sustained by Khamenei in this affair may not have been all that severe as Khomeini himself subsequently strongly commended the president as "one of the capable arms of the Islamic Republic" and "one of the rare individuals who emit light like the sun." Hashemi Rafsanjani, who could arguably profit from any reverse suffered by Khamenei, took pains to emphasise that Khomeini's edicts were not intended to reproach any particular individual. "Foreigners studying our affairs should not believe there is a confrontation and clash of powers and that the Imam is picking one person or institution over another," he stated. The Majlis speaker stressed that he and President Khamenei are "still together, and will be until eternity."

While Rafsanjani's remarks could be dismissed as the usual Iranian attempt to gloss over obvious rivalries, they also indicate that Khomeini is pursuing a careful "divide and rule" strategy, ensuring that no single person or group gets too powerful. This helps explain why the president was praised by Khomeini after having been criticised. It also provides support for the idea that it would be wrong to see the Imam's edicts as a definitive victory for "radicals" over "conservatives."

Certainly, the way is now open for the government and Majlis to implement new legislation in a number of areas, including industrial relations, taxation, tenancy arrangements, and sharecropping. However, it is unlikely that reforms will be as sweeping as demanded by radicals. The new "assembly" to decide disputes between the Majlis and Council of Guardians is likely to be dominated by mainstream leaders like Khamenei and Rafsanjani who are hardly likely to support leftist measures. The government will certainly use its new powers to expand its control over society and establish order

in matters that have remained confused since the revolution, but whether such reforms will prove effective or fundamental remains to be seen — Middle East International, London.

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The Entrance of the Palace of Culture & Haya Art Center

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Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference concludes

(Continued from page 1)

of some resolutions on the question of Palestine and the Middle East in contradiction with its responsibility as a superpower responsible for maintaining international peace and security.

Support for uprising

The conference also adopted a resolution on the Palestinian uprising and hailed the heroic revolt and affirmed Islamic support of the Palestinian people in their "just and blessed uprising."

The conference decided to set up committees throughout the Islamic World to provide the Palestinian people with material and moral assistance.

It also called upon all member states to continue to provide the Palestinian people with all forms of urgent and effective official and popular support.

Iranian pullout

The adoption of three resolutions pertaining to the Iran-Iraq conflict, sanctification of holy places and Haj rites, special measures designed to organize and specify the number of pilgrims appeared to be behind Iran's withdrawal from the meeting Thursday.

Iran's delegate to the conference, Mohammad Ali Tashkiri, said Thursday his delegation totally withdrew from the meeting because of what he described as pressures by some representatives against Iran.

In a letter to OIC Secretary General Sharifuddin Pirzada, Tashkiri said the political committee of the conference had approved some resolutions "which were directly against the Islamic Republic of Iran, namely, on the Iran-Iraq war, limiting the number of pilgrims, and the sanctification of the Muslim holy places in Mecca."

"My delegation feels that great pressures are being exerted by some countries to lead this session to their specific goals. Therefore, my delegation declares its full withdrawal from the seventeenth foreign ministers meeting," Tashkiri said.

The resolution on the Iran-Iraq war supported Security Council Resolution 598 and emphasized the need for its implementation as an indivisible whole and the application of all its provisions.

The Islamic countries also urged the Security Council to take the necessary measures vis-a-vis Iran for not having announced its acceptance of Resolution 598.

Support for S. Arabia

Two resolutions — one presented by Jordan and the other by Saudi Arabia — dealt with last July's Mecca riots and with measures that Saudi Arabia intends to adopt to prevent further harassment to pilgrims.

The resolution on sanctification of holy places and Haj rites condemned the "acts of disruption and sabotage perpetrated by the Iranian pilgrims in Holy Mecca during the Haj season" and declared "complete solidarity" with Saudi Arabia in any measures it takes to secure a "proper environment for an Islamic pilgrimage to the Holy House of God can conduct the Haj ritual in safety and piety."

Another resolution, presented by Saudi Arabia, requested that all member states of OIC cooperate with the government of Saudi Arabia in all matters pertaining to the adoption of the appropriate measures designed to afford equal chances for all pilgrims.

The conference also called for Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, including Syria's Golan Heights and South Lebanon. It also called for an international conference to define the meaning of "international terrorism" and distinguish it from "the struggle of people for national liberation."

Afghanistan

The conference adopted a resolution calling for an immediate Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, and welcoming Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's announcement that the Soviet Union wants to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan and expressed hope that a "comprehensive political solution would be expeditiously reached so that conditions of peace and stability are created in Afghanistan and Afghan refugees could return to their homes with dignity and honor."

The resolution also requested that the Islamic Development Bank study the "magnitude of the needs of Afghanistan's economic reconstruction and to draw up specific programs for participation by the bank and OIC member states in the process of economic reconstruction in Afghanistan."

The conference condemned the U.S. decision to close the office of the PLO mission to the U.N. The conference considered the U.S. move as a "flagrant challenge levelled at the Palestinian people and their inalienable national rights as well as an attempt to deprive them of their natural and legitimate right to submit, through the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, their just cause to the international community."

The conference also adopted resolutions condemning Israel's build-up of nuclear arsenal and the strategic alliance between the United States and Israel.

It also called on member states which maintain relations with Israel to "abide by their commitment to the relevant resolutions of Islamic conferences."

The conference decided to hold the next foreign ministers meeting in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in 1989 and the 19th conference in Egypt.

The next OIC summit is scheduled to be held in Dakar, Senegal, in 1990. A mini-summit of OIC summit will be held in Kuwait April 10-11.

The conference elected Hamed Al Ghabed of Niger as secretary general for a four-year term beginning Jan. 1, 1989.

PLO delegate Jamal Al Sourani, a member of the organization's executive committee, told the meeting's closing session that Israel represented a threat to the entire Islamic World.

"The danger is clear. It doesn't threaten only the Palestinian people, but all of you," he said. "They began in Palestine and their claws reached Lebanon and Syria and will reach the farthest Islamic country."

"Successful conference"

The conference's chairman, Foreign Minister Taber Al Masri, declared the meeting a success and said the political resolutions were unanimous, excepting reservations.

Speaking at a press conference following the closing session, Masri said there were no objections registered on political issues but that some differences were observed on the drafting, but not contents of resolutions. He said slight amendments were made.

Masri told journalists that deliberations "went very smoothly" and that there was "a great measure of cooperation" among the delegations.

The foreign minister said that Saudi Arabia had requested to host the 18th session of the OIC meeting and that Egypt offered to host the 19th session. He said Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Sharaa registered his country's opposition to holding the 18th conference in Cairo, because of Egypt's separate peace treaty with Israel. The resolution was passed any way, Masri said.

Masri said the conference stopped short of condemning Iran for rejecting peace initiatives and said OIC member states called on Iran to accept Resolution 598. He said the resolution on the Gulf war was in line with the resolutions adopted by last November's Amman Arab summit.

Asked to elaborate on Saudi Arabia's decision to limit the numbers of pilgrims to Mecca, Masri said the conference "left it up to Saudi Arabia to carry out the resolutions as it wishes."

On the recent American peace initiative, the conference chairman said that Jordan was comparing notes with Egypt and other Arab states on the proposals. He said the issue was discussed in general terms, in the context of the Arab-Israeli conflict in general.

On the Palestine question, Masri noted that the conference endorsed Palestinian rights, including the right to return and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

On the U.S. decision to close down the PLO mission to the U.N., Masri said the PLO drafted the resolution on this subject and that the organization was currently taking legal action against the U.S. decision.

Masri described as balanced a conference resolution on the Afghanistan problem saying that the conference supported the Soviet decision to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan.

Masri said the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories was one of three main topics that drew the attention of conference, who, he said, expressed their understanding and appreciation of the uprising's full implications and dimensions.

Libyan stand

The Libyan foreign minister has reiterated his country's position that the "Zionist-Arab conflict arises from the existence of a Jewish state in the area."

Jadallah Azzouzi Al Talhi said the "Zionists threaten the Arab existence in the area" and that this "is evident from their policy" and various measures adopted by the Israeli authorities in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

In an interview with the Jordan Times Thursday, Talhi said Libya understood Israel's expansionist aims, and "it is difficult to envision coexistence between the Arabs and an Israeli state." Consequently, Libya will not accept the idea of an international peace conference, he said.

Such a conference, he said, will "grant legitimacy to a Zionist existence in the land of Palestine."

According to Talhi, the new U.S. peace proposal, like "all other American proposals," aims at giving the "Zionists legitimate rights of existence in Palestine and, in essence, relieving the Zionists from the difficult situation they are facing now."

The United States, through its latest proposal, aims to "abort the national Palestinian uprising," he said.

The Libyan foreign minister paid tribute to the Palestinian uprising and said: "This uprising came as a clear answer to efforts by certain countries to reach a settlement allowing for coexistence with the enemy."

Asked what would Libya consider as an alternative, Talhi said: "It is our legitimate right to fight this occupation with all our strength and capabilities and put an end to Israeli aggression."

"The loss of lives, land and money is a necessary price to pay for victory," he added.

Talhi said Iran's withdrawal from the Islamic foreign ministers meeting in Amman was "regrettable." He added that he wished these conferences would be a forum for "discussion and agreement."

Libya presented a working paper to the conference on the 1986 April American attack on Libya. Talhi said: "The OIC has accepted the paper and will support us in calling for reimbursement on the losses as a result of the attack."

Resolutions adopted by the conference contained a denunciation of the American attack and a demand that Libya be compensated.

Under new regulations, lower-ranking officers can now order such detentions without judicial review.

The Jerusalem Post reported Thursday that 350 Palestinians had been administratively detained during the past week. Langer, who visited Shaban Wednesday, estimated that nearly 400 Palestinians are now detained without trial.

Israeli military spokesmen have not responded to repeated requests for an official figure of "administrative detentions."

Detained Gaza lawyer reports prison injustices

Abu Shaban said in a statement released to Reuters by his Israeli lawyer.

An Israeli military spokesman said he was jailed for unspecified hostile activities within the Gaza Lawyers' Association, of which he is vice-chairman.

Abu Shaban catalogued more than 2,000 Palestinians held at Gaza's Ansar-2 detention camp and tried to expose cases of beatings and mistreatment.

He was working on a lawsuit in the Israeli high court of justice over the use of torture against three clients when he was arrested, his Israeli lawyer Felicia Langer said.

Abu Shaban is now himself being held at Ansar-2 under "administrative detention." This allows the Israeli military authorities to hold a person for six months without trial.

Iran-contra case in court; defendants plead innocence

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan's former aides Oliver North and John Poindexter and two associates have pleaded innocent to Iran-contra scandal charges, setting the stage for a legal battle unprecedented since Watergate.

"Not guilty," each of the four defendants said Thursday in their first court appearance since last week's indictment charging that they violated a wide range of criminal laws during the Iran-contra scandal.

The 23-count indictment charged that North and Poindexter conspired to defraud the U.S. government by stealing profits from the secret arms sales to Iran to provide prohibited military aid to the contras, and covered up their activities.

Attorneys for the four vowed a vigorous defense as part of a strategy that may include subpoenas for Reagan and Vice-President George Bush to testify on behalf of the former White House aides.

The charges of high-level White House wrongdoing — the worst crisis of the Reagan presidency — were the most sweeping since the Watergate scandal that led to President Richard Nixon's resignation in 1974.

Presiding over the Iran-contra trial will be U.S. District Judge Gerhard Gesell, who heard a number of the Watergate cases and who pledged to move the case along as quickly as possible and set a hearing for April 12.

"I've cancelled every case I have," Gesell said Thursday. "I've cancelled my vacation."

Gesell set April 12 for a preliminary hearing on whether Lawrence Walsh, the independent counsel, can use the evidence he gathered against the men during his 14-month investigation. No trial date was set.

The other two charged along with North and Poindexter are Richard V. Secord and Albert Hakim.

Charges against the defendants include destruction of documents, accepting gratuities, obstruction of justice and lying to Congress.

Aziz slams Iran

(Continued from page 1)

self-determination and it is a great historic contribution to their liberation from Israeli occupation."

Aziz accused Syria of not fulfilling agreements reached in the extraordinary Arab summit held in Amman last November and rejected charges made by Syria that Iraq was mounting a "hostile media campaign" against Damascus.

"There are no improvements in the Syrian-Iraqi relations," Aziz said, "since Syria only pretended to comply (with the resolutions of the Amman summit)."

Aziz said the resolutions clearly called for condemning Iranian attacks on Iraq and expressed solidarity with Iraq. But he said, "after the summit, Syrian officials visited Tehran and made statements that contradicted the essence of the summit resolutions."

Aziz said: "This is a violation of Arab solidarity, leaving no room for improvement" in Syrian-Iraqi relations. He denied that Baghdad had been making media attacks on Damascus, "unless they are talking about what was written after the statements by Syrian officials, but this is normal practice. We have to make our position clear."

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa, also attending the Amman conference, told the Jordan Times Wednesday that "there are no (Syrian-Iraqi reconciliation) efforts now." He also said: "Syria was refraining from replying to the hostile media campaign from Baghdad."

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Turkey protests Iranian air raid

ANKARA (R) — Turkey accused Iran Friday of deliberately bombing the country's main border crossing point with Iraq.

"This attack was done on purpose. The main purpose was to cut trade between Turkey and Iraq. Iranian officials must be very careful not to make further attacks close to Turkey," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Iranian Ambassador Manoochehr Mottaki was summoned to the Foreign Ministry to receive strongly-worded written and verbal protests late Thursday.

The Iranian news agency IRNA, received in Cyprus, reported that the Iranian embassy in Ankara categorically denied that Iranian warplanes had bombed a region near the border between Turkey and Iraq.

The Turkish statement said one Iranian warplane dropped five bombs near a populated area on the Turkish side of the Iraqi border zone Thursday, but no casualties were reported.

The blasts broke windows in the Habur border post, causing panic among customs officials and truck drivers, newspapers reported.

Habur, about 240 kilometers west of the nearest point on the Iranian border, is the main transit point for trade between Iraq and Iran, worth \$2.1 billion in 1987, and for European truck traffic bound for Iraq.

Pro-Iranian Kurdish guerrillas have attacked convoys from Turkey on the Iraqi side of the border but Thursday's incident was believed to be the first aerial attack.

IRNA said that Iranian ambassador called on the Turkish government to take steps to prevent Iraqi warplanes from using Turkey's air space on their way to bomb Iran.

The agency said Mottaki had been assured that Turkey would not permit any country to use its airspace for war purposes.

Nevertheless Iran was preparing a protest note to be delivered to the Ankara government, IRNA said in a dispatch from Ankara.

Iranian officials in Ankara said the protest focused on an Iraqi attempt to bomb the Kotur railway bridge Thursday.

The Turkey-Iran railway is the major transit route for Iranian supplies from Turkey and European countries.

Peres reelected leader of Labour

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Labour Party has reelected Foreign Minister Shimon Peres as party leader and its candidate for the premiership in elections this fall, Israeli army radio reported.

Peres told the party's central committee Thursday he would run against the right-wing Likud bloc on a platform favouring initiating a peace process with the Arabs immediately.

"We will opt for a political solution," Peres told a cheering audience after the balloting for party leader, in which he was the only candidate.

"The camp of intimidation rejects any political solution," said Peres, referring to the Likud.

"The camp of hope believes in such a solution. And there is such a solution."

The radio said one delegate voted against Peres in the 1,250-member committee which is the key party institution, but did not identify the delegate.

Palestinian official killed in Sidon

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — A top Palestinian official loyal to Yasser Arafat was killed in inter-Palestinian clashes at a refugee camp near this southern Lebanese town Friday, Palestinian sources said.

They said clashes flared for 30 minutes between Palestinian fighters Fateh and fighters loyal to Jamal Suleiman, a former Fateh official. Farid Hourani, Fateh's military commander at 'Ain Al Hilweh Palestinian refugee camp, was killed.

Shultz meets PNC members today

(Continued from page 1)

"terrorism" and refuses to give explicit recognition to Israel.

However, U.S. officials are in regular contact with Palestinian sources and Shultz himself had talks in Washington in January with two Palestinians, editor Hanna Siniora and lawyer Fayez Abu Rahne.

Shamir Friday told U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering of Israel's reaction.

"Mr. Shamir told U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering he viewed the meeting with grave and serious concern because the United States guaranteed in 1975 it would not meet PLO members, barring certain conditions which have not been met," said Shamir's spokesman, Avi Pazner.

Pickering briefed Shamir on talks between Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Washington this week which showed deep differences over an international Middle East peace conference.

die East peace conference.

Pazner also said Pickering informed Shamir that Shultz had not yet taken a decision on whether he would return to the Middle East to pursue his peace efforts.

A former Israeli ambassador to the United States, Meir Rosenzweig, told Israel Radio that both Said and Abu Lughud were official members of PLO delegations to the United Nations General Assembly in the late 1970s.

An opinion poll in the Israeli daily newspaper Yediot Aharanot said 49 per cent of Israelis questioned supported the Shultz initiative while 43 per cent opposed it. The others had no opinion.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Israel should accept Shultz's proposals.

"I am convinced that we should give (Shultz) a positive answer," he told students at Tel Aviv University.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa was quoted as saying Friday that Washington promised to twist Israel's arm to force it to accept an international Middle East peace conference — but the opposite happened.

Shultz said the conference endorsed Palestinian rights, including the right to return and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

On the U.S. decision to close down the PLO mission to the U.N., Masri said the PLO drafted the resolution on this subject and that the organization was currently taking legal action against the U.S. decision.

Masri described as balanced a conference resolution on the Afghanistan problem saying that the conference supported the Soviet decision to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan.

Masri said the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories was one of three main topics that drew the attention of conference, who, he said, expressed their understanding and appreciation of the uprising's full implications and dimensions.

Libyan stand

The Libyan foreign minister has reiterated his country's position that the "Zionist-Arab conflict arises from the existence of a Jewish state in the area."

Jadallah Azzouzi Al Talhi said the "Zionists threaten the Arab existence in the area" and that this "is evident from their policy" and various measures adopted by the Israeli authorities in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

In an interview with the Jordan Times Thursday, Talhi said Libya understood Israel's expansionist aims, and "it is difficult to envision coexistence between the Arabs and an Israeli state." Consequently, Libya will not accept the idea of an international peace conference, he said.

Such a conference, he said, will "grant legitimacy to a Zionist existence in the land of Palestine."

According to Talhi, the new U.S. peace proposal, like "all other American proposals," aims at giving the "Zionists legitimate rights of existence in Palestine and, in essence, relieving the Zionists from the difficult situation they are facing now."

The United States, through its latest proposal, aims to "abort the national Palestinian uprising," he said.

The Libyan foreign minister paid tribute to the Palestinian uprising and said: "This uprising came as a clear answer to efforts by certain countries to reach a settlement allowing for coexistence with the enemy."

Asked what would Libya consider as an alternative, Talhi said: "It is our legitimate right to fight this occupation with all our strength and capabilities and put an end to Israeli aggression."

"The loss of lives, land and money is a necessary price to pay for victory," he added.

Talhi said Iran's withdrawal from the Islamic foreign ministers meeting in Amman was "regrettable." He added that he wished these conferences would be a forum for "discussion and agreement."

Libya presented a working paper to the conference on the 1986 April American attack on Libya. Talhi said: "The OIC has accepted the paper and will support us in calling for reimbursement on the losses as a result of the attack."

Resolutions adopted by the conference contained a denunciation of the American attack and a demand that Libya be compensated.

Under new regulations, lower-ranking officers can now order such detentions without judicial review.

The Jerusalem Post reported Thursday that 350 Palestinians had been administratively detained during the past week. Langer, who visited Shaban Wednesday, estimated that nearly 400 Palestinians are now detained without trial.

Israeli military spokesmen have not responded to repeated requests for an official figure of "administrative detentions."

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OPEC price committee to meet April 6

JAKARTA (R) — OPEC's price committee will meet on April 6-7 in Vienna to review strategy after recent falls in the spot price of crude, Indonesia's new Energy Minister Ginandjar Kartasasmita said Friday.

He told reporters Friday any decision would be based on a review of audited production of Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) members for the first quarter of 1988, but Indonesia did not feel the need for a new pricing or production formula.

Giving the first official announcement dates for the meeting, Ginandjar said: "First we will study the results of the auditing team, and only then we will decide what to do."

The OPEC special committee comprises Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Algeria, Venezuela and Nigeria.

It was set up last December to monitor prices and check whether member of the group are sticking to assigned output quotas.

News of the planned meeting has helped spot prices recover. The five-member committee is empowered to call an emergency meeting of the 13-member group.

Saudi Arabia had asked for the

five-man ministerial committee to meet immediately, while OPEC President Rihwan Lukman said it would convene in the first week of April, but officials said the meeting could not be held until after the April 1-4 Easter holiday.

Ginandjar, who replaced energy minister Subroto in a cabinet announced last week, said he did not see the need for a new OPEC pricing or production formula but it would be up to the OPEC pricing panel to decide.

He said the main constraint now facing OPEC was production coming on stream from new non-OPEC suppliers like North Yemen and Angola. "But the key factor is that OPEC remains united," he declared.

Subroto, widely regarded as a respected voice for moderation within OPEC, will attend the Vienna meeting as an adviser, Ginandjar said.

"I'll bring pak (Mr.) Subroto because this will be the first time I attend (an OPEC meeting)," he said.

"This is necessary considering Mr. Subroto's expertise and experience as mines and energy minister for the past 10 years. He will introduce me to other OPEC ministers," he said.

Some oil industry executives had publicly said the loss of Subroto was a serious setback to OPEC and he would be missed in difficult negotiations.

Traders expect output cuts

Oil industry analysts in Tokyo said that the stage is set for OPEC to cut oil production and engineer a recovery in world crude oil prices.

"If the OPEC price committee decides to recommend a production cut, we'll have a significant rise in prices," said one international oil trader.

Some oil traders said Saudi Arabia had been gearing up to assert its power over the 13-nation OPEC group.

They said Saudi Arabia was the prime mover behind recent non-OPEC oil producer talks among Egypt, Oman, China, Mexico, Angola, Malaysia and Colombia.

The seven non-OPEC oil producers will soon announce steps to help boost world oil prices, a senior Arab oil industry source in Bahrain said.

"I think Saudis have been working behind the scenes to get the cooperation from non-OPEC producers," said one Japanese oil trader.

"Now OPEC has got some support from non-OPEC oil producers, it can take further steps to stabilise the market," he said.

A Saudi move last week to sell its oil at cheaper prices was interpreted by some traders as a sign that the big Middle East producer intends to demand an OPEC output cut.

"Saudi Arabia is now in a position to keep its production high even in a very bad market — now is a good time for Saudi (Arabia) to threaten the other members," said the trader.

He said Saudi Arabia, which accounts for more than 25 per cent of OPEC oil output, could threaten to take market share from other member countries if they refused to follow the Saudi call for production cuts.

"If OPEC really wants to raise the market, they have to agree (to) a production cut, but all the members are not yet ready to do this," said a Japanese refiner.

"They're buying time." "I tend to think they're just trying to muddle through," said an oil analyst.



Agriculture Minister Marwan Hmoud addresses a scientific gathering on bee-breeding in Jordan (Petra photo).

Hmoud stresses importance of increasing honey production

AMMAN (Petra) — Agriculture Minister Marwan Hmoud Thursday said that Jordan imported 278 tonnes of honey worth JD 220,000 in 1986, because the local production was only 90 tonnes, or 33 per cent of the local demand, while the world production reached one million tonnes a year.

Inaugurating a scientific day on bee-breeding organised by Ministry of Agriculture in cooperation with the University of Jordan Agriculture Faculty, Jordan Economic and Social Organisation for Retired Servicemen and USAID, Hmoud said that the per capita share of honey is 138 grammes, 32 of which are only produced locally.

Hmoud added that technical studies have shown that it is possible to double and treble the number of modern bee hives in order to achieve self sufficiency in honey.

Hmoud expressed hope that the participants will have the opportunity to come up with practical objectives that would serve bee-breeders and provide them with incentives to increase their honey production capacity.

Agriculture Faculty Dean Mahmoud Duweiri said that bee-breeding has become one of the important agricultural professions worldwide in view of the high price of honey and the increasing demand for it.

He pointed out that there are more than 50 million bee hives around the world, the average production of each is 20 kilograms.

The number of bee hives in Jordan is some 20,000 and the average production of each one is only five kilograms.

Jordan to stage industrial exhibition in Tunis next month

TUNIS (Petra) — The Third Jordanian industrial exhibition will be held in the Tunisian capital April 13, the director of the Jordanian Trade Centre in Tunis, Samir Arabiat, has said.

Arabiat added that the exhibition reflects the interest of both countries to develop trade relations.

He noted that Jordanian products are popular and easily marketable in Tunisia because they are of a high quality and are manufactured in accordance with standard specifications.

Arabiat added that more than 40 companies will take part in the exhibition and will sell their products directly to the public, in accordance with the \$2.5 million quota that has been agreed upon between both countries.

Tomato plant stops operations

KARAK (Petra) — The tomato paste factory in Ghor Al Safi has stopped production Thursday because the quantities of tomato received by the factory were not sufficient for its operation, Ghor Al Safi Marketing Centre director Rami Tarawneh said Thursday.

Tarawneh added that the factory, since its commissioning on Feb. 16, received 2,200 tonnes of tomato, thus contributing to stabilisation of tomato prices in the market and ensuring benefits to the farmers in the Jordan Valley.

U.S. court approves Texaco bankruptcy reorganisation plan

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (R) — A U.S. judge has approved Texaco Inc.'s reorganisation plan aimed at taking the third-largest U.S. oil company out of chapter 11 bankruptcy and ending its long legal battle with Pennzoil Co.

Bankruptcy Judge Howard Schwartzberg announced his decision after a confirmation hearing that began Tuesday.

A favourable ruling had been expected after a majority of Texaco's shareholders approved the proposal and others dropped their objection to the plan.

Texaco's largest shareholder, Carl Icahn, voted for the plan but still objected to a provision protecting management from shareholder suits.

The heart of the reorganisation plan is a \$3 billion payment to Pennzoil to settle the companies' dispute over Texaco's 1984 takeover of Getty Oil Co.

Texas courts had upheld a record \$10.3 billion judgment against Texaco for illegally interfering with Pennzoil's existing agreement to buy a controlling stake in Getty. Texaco filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy, which protects it from its creditors.

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.8290/8300	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2415/25	Canadian dollar
	1.6800/07	Deutsche marks
	1.8860/70	Dutch guilders
	1.3900/10	Swiss francs
	35.14/19	Belgian francs
	5.7025/55	French francs
	1243/1244	Italian lire
	125.77/87	Japanese yen
	5.9300/50	Swedish crowns
	6.3150/3200	Norwegian kroner
	6.4300/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	450.40/450.90	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Shares closed sharply lower as selling pressure hit all sectors. Early nervousness in industrials caused by Wall Street's Thursday drop spread to other areas. The All Ordinaries index fell 25.7 points to 1,424.5.

TOKYO — Share prices closed lower after Wall Street's 44-point tumble and a faltering dollar. The Nikkei index fell 154.57 to 25,626.71.

HONG KONG — Stocks closed weak but off the day's lows after trading overshadowed by Wall Street's sharp drop. Fears that local banks might raise interest rates added to the fall. The Hang Seng index closed 44.47 points lower at 2,501.93.

SINGAPORE — The market closed moderately lower across the board under some selling pressure and profit-taking. The Straits Times industrial index fell 12.85 to 945.60.

BOMBAY — Share prices recovered selectively in restricted dealings after the exchange authorities doubled daily margins on sales in 18 leading shares, effective immediately.

FRANKFURT — Prices closed sharply lower as large losses in New York and other major centres added to local worries. The Commerzbank index, set at mid-session, fell 44.8 to 1,379.9.

ZURICH — Swiss prices closed sharply lower but slightly above the day's lows in low turnover.

PARIS — Shares ended the continuous session down but above their morning lows in quiet pre-weekend trading.

LONDON — Prices were improving quietly but steadily in late trading after the market fell sharply on U.K. balance of payments data. At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 14.3 at 1,768.4.

NEW YORK — Stocks showed small losses in early trading. The Dow 30 index was unchanged at 2,024.

White House warns against foreign investor registry

WASHINGTON (R) — A senior Reagan administration official warned Thursday that forcing foreign investors to publicly disclose their U.S. holdings could damage the U.S. economy by driving up interest rates.

Treasury Secretary James Baker urged Congress to "consider long and hard the risk of higher interest rates they are inviting" with plans for public registry of foreign investors.

But at a hearing of the Senate Commerce Committee, Democrat Lloyd Bentsen of Texas indicated interest in the idea despite Baker's concern.

Bentsen, co-chairman of the Senate-House Conference Committee negotiating a trade bill, said he "hoped to find some accommodation" for the registry proposal provided it was shown it would not hurt foreign investment in the United States.

The House of Representatives approved a proposal by Congressman John Bryant, a Texas Democrat, in a trade bill it passed last year, but the Senate rejected a similar amendment to its bill.

House and Senate negotiators now are reconciling the two versions of the trade bill.

Baker, in a statement sent to the committee, said a public registry requirement would discourage foreign investment just when "we have a special need for it."

"If enacted, the Bryant provision would have a chilling effect on foreign investment in the United States — thereby costing jobs, raising interest rates, lower-

ing productivity, closing of opportunities for managerial improvements, and undermining our efforts to liberalise investment abroad," Baker said.

Less foreign investment would create more demand for money to service the government's massive debt, thereby driving up interest rates.

The proposal under consideration by both chambers would require investors buying more than five per cent of a U.S. firm with assets of \$5 million or more to list their identity and holdings. The information would be publicly available.

Democrat Tom Harkin of Iowa, who proposed the original Senate version, said foreign investment in the United States has tripled in the past five years to \$1.5 trillion and was a contributing factor to making the United States one of the world's debtor countries instead of a creditor.

Egypt intends to come to terms with IMF

CAIRO (R) — A key cabinet minister Thursday rejected suggestions Egypt's agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) was foundering and said the government was committed to making it work.

Ataf Ebeid, minister of cabinet affairs and a top economic aide to President Hosni Mubarak, said the two sides disagreed on two reforms — whether to raise domestic interest rates and how fast to unify all exchange rates to a market level.

But the dialogue would continue and Egypt intended to agree with the IMF on action to follow up their standby credits accord signed last May.

"The dialogue is on, it will continue. We intend to continue and we intend to agree with the IMF," Ebeid told Reuters in an interview which provided rare insight into how the most populous Arab state sees relations with the fund.

Ebeid said slow-moving payments up to next June 30 on Egypt's \$43-billion foreign debt would eventually be completed.

He said Egypt would seek a fresh Paris Club accord to reschedule payments from July 1 "unless we get a considerable increase in our resources like the oil price going up to 1985 levels." Egypt is a leading non-OPEC producer.

Ebeid said a review by IMF experts of Egypt's performance, which started this month, would continue next week. Central Bank Governor Salah Hamid would go to Washington on April 14 "probably for a third round if needed."

IMF approval is vital for Egypt's expected bid for fresh Paris Club rescheduling and disbursement of undrawn credits of over \$150 million under last May's accord.

Ebeid said the IMF and Egypt agreed more effort was needed to

reduce the budget deficit and the government had to do this by increasing revenue rather than cutting spending.

He said the issue of state subsidies, which keep basic goods and services much cheaper than world levels, was not raised.

But Egyptians could expect a review of the taxation system — not necessary a tax increase but better collection.

"Only 50 per cent of what should be collected is collected," Ebeid said.

He said there was no dispute with the IMF on unifying Egypt's exchange rates, but they disagreed on how fast Cairo should abolish its artificially low central bank rate of 0.70 pounds to the dollar at which subsidised foods are imported.

Switching such purchases to the market rate of about 2.25 pounds to the dollar could harm the poor, he said.

"If you transfer more than the

people can take, you're running a risk of political instability... and economic instability which will affect the flow of investment," he said.

"We are making calculations how long it will take to do that safely. They (the IMF) will definitely be interested in seeing that done over a short period. We will definitely be interested in seeing it done over a long period."

The only other issue of disagreement was a fund demand that Egypt should raise domestic interest rates — which the government felt would do nothing to attract more hard currency remittances from abroad.

Asked if the government planned to increase energy prices, a condition for World Bank approval of up to \$800 million in project financing, Ebeid said: "The whole sector is still under study. No commitment."

Intervention halts dollar's decline

TOKYO (R) — Central bank intervention halted the U.S. dollar's nosedive and pushed it higher in Tokyo Friday, but regional stock markets fell, unable to shake off Wall Street's worries completely.

As the dollar, which fell more than one yen in New York Thursday, plummeted close the key psychological level of 125 yen in Tokyo Friday morning, dealers reported that the Bank of Japan

intervened to support the dollar. Rumours also spread that the U.S. Federal Reserve was checking rates, an indication that it too would intervene.

The dollar rebounded from its low of 125.20 yen, closing at 125.74 yen and 1.681 Deutsche marks against 125.60 yen and 1.6770 marks in New York Thursday.

"The market is very cautious about coordinated central bank

intervention as the dollar falls towards the psychological support of 125 yen, at which level central banks once bought dollars aggressively," said Norimitsu Takada at Citibank.

Still, underlying sentiment remains bearish for the dollar.

The Japanese economy is stronger than both the European and American economies, dealers said, adding that it was only a matter of time before the dollar pushed once more at the 125 yen level.

"It is not very clear what will happen to the yen or the New York market," said deputy branch manager Takeshi Murakami of Schroder Securities.

Two ministries merge in Iraq

BAGHDAD (OPECNA) — The Iraqi ministries of light and heavy industries have been merged into the ministry of industry and minerals, it was announced here.

Colonel Hussein Kamel, in charge of the Military Industries Commission, was appointed acting minister of the new ministry.

Abdul Tawab Mulla Huwais, former minister of the amalgamated heavy industries, was appointed an adviser.

Former Light Industry Minister Hatem Abdul Rasheed retains his post as the director general of the Baghdad-based Arab Industrial Development Organisation.

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Steffi Graf

Graf, Evert reach Florida tennis final

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida (R) — Top-seeded Steffi Graf of West Germany defeated unseeded American Stephanie Rehe 6-3, 6-1 Thursday to reach the final against Chris Evert at the \$2.1 million International Players Championships.

Earlier in the day, Evert, ranked third in the world, eliminated compatriot American Mary Joe Fernandez 6-2, 6-1. Fernandez had beaten third-seeded Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina.

Rehe, 34th in the world, took a 2-0 lead in the first set by breaking Graf in the first game of the match, but the 18-year-old West German broke back in the fourth game for 2-2. The two both held serve easily to 3-3.

Graf won her serve at 4-3 with a blistering forehand winner and took control of the match. Including that game, the defending champion won 10 of the last 11 games of the match as Rehe began having trouble with Graf's powerful groundstrokes.

Graf lifted her game going into the second set as she dominated eight of the first nine points of the set with her aggressive play. She repeatedly produced winners throughout the second set off Rehe's weak second serve.

Graf, who had beaten Rehe in their three previous meetings, said that the turning point of the match was when she won her serve at 3-3 and then began to attack Rehe's serve.

"I think I picked up my game then (at 3-3). I started stepping into my forehand, and she wasn't getting to the ball as well. She was aggressive in the beginning, but then her serve hurt her," Graf said.

Evert, who lost to Graf in the final of the Australian open, outlasted Fernandez, 20 in the world, from the baseline and wore down the 16-year-old by running her from side to side.

Evert said that she tried to lure Fernandez to the net because the teenager was having trouble with Evert's pinpoint passing shots.

NCAA RESULTS

NEW YORK (R) — Results of National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) basketball semifinal tournament games played Thursday:

East Regional			
Duke	73	Rhode Island	72
Temple	69	Richmond	47
Southeast Regional			
Villanova	80	Kentucky	74
Oklahoma	108	Louisville	98

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Morocco to build new stadia

CASABLANCA (R) — Morocco plans to build nine new soccer stadia as part of its bid to host the 1994 World Cup finals, according to a dossier presented by the country to FIFA, the sport's world governing body. Moroccan sports minister Abdellatif Semlali told reporters that the stadia, each with a capacity of about 40,000, would be in addition to the three existing World Cup-standard venues in Morocco. "We are going to increase our present hotel capacity by two thirds," Semlali said, adding that Morocco was upgrading its transport and communication systems. FIFA is due to decide on July 4 whether to offer the 1994 finals to Morocco, the United States, or Brazil.

Mayweather retains WBC title

LOS ANGELES (R) — Roger Mayweather of the United States retained his World Boxing Council (WBC) superlightweight championship Thursday with a third-round knockout of challenger Mauricio Aceves of Mexico. Mayweather, who had put Aceves down once in the first round, connected with a rapid-fire left-right combination in the third, felling him for the count at one minute 32 seconds into the round.

Italy could lose right to 1990 World Cup, TV says

ROME (R) — State broadcaster Rai warned Thursday that the 1990 World Cup soccer finals in Italy faced a television blackout unless it received rapid approval to build an international broadcasting centre in Rome for the competition. A Rai spokesman said failure to televise the matches meant the finals would have to be moved to another country. The warning, in a tough statement issued by the Rai administrative council, followed strong criticism by International Football Federation (FIFA) secretary-general Joseph Blatter over long delays in the building of the centre. The statement noted Blatter's concern and urged Rai to carry out its task in line with international commitments made by the government. "The spokesman said Rai had an obligation to televise matches for transmission to a worldwide audience and to give technical help to foreign stations for their own coverage. 'If Rai can't transmit that means the finals won't take place in Italy,' the spokesman said."

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1988

YOUR HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You would be wise to use caution in all of your comments and actions at home today, as tempers may run high and feelings could be hurt. This is a good time for everyone to spend a little time alone.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Something may turn up to test your self-control, but try to maintain harmony at home. Be sure to drive very carefully today.

Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20) Avoid an argument which may arise today, as it will quickly blow over if you keep silent. Catch up on some reading this evening.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Financial matters may worry you this morning, so handle them quickly. Some advice you get may seem strange, but it is actually good.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Although you may arise feeling a bit discontented, you can do much to improve that attitude during the day and evening.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A secret anxiety could cause you to act too quickly on an important matter and suffer a big loss, so think carefully before making any decisions.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Don't be so anxious to gain a personal wish that you hurt a good friend who has helped you. Get plenty of rest tonight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 23) Don't let outside duties interfere with home matters, or big trouble could ensue. Be very cautious in motion and in conversations.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Don't become involved in an argument between an associate and a business contact, as this is not your concern and will get you in trouble.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Close friends may not agree with your ideas about finances and property, but listen to their views, as they may be helpful to you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You may be about to lose your temper with a co-worker, but doing so would have unfortunate results. Spend more time with your mate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Don't let a misunderstanding with a friend keep you from handling the activities you had planned. Try to cooperate more with co-workers.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Avoid a friend who is stubborn and could cause you some trouble today. Stay out of an argument between your mate and a friend.

The Daily Commuter Puzzle

ACROSS

1. Siblings: abbr.
2. Ailing
3. Speed
4. Mrs. Chaplin
5. Bangkok resident
6. Clear it type
7. Seth's dad
8. Orient
9. Ocean
10. Outlaw
11. Army
12. Cap
13. Spotted
14. Kid
15. Fla. Indian
16. Fragrance
17. Incline
18. Stream: abbr.
19. Queue
20. World Series winner
21. Church part
22. Permit
23. Glistening
24. A. Fond
25. "Beauty"
26. Quarrelsome
27. Women
28. Respiratory organ
29. 11 Acting group
30. Comment
31. Place for a swing
32. Actor Deion
33. Vasco da
34. Great Lake
35. Pooh's creator
36. Norse god
37. Lily plant
38. Blanche
39. Sink in
40. Goes bad

DOWN

1. Wild pig
2. Traveler
3. even keel
4. With STD, an
5. Sully
6. "It" — a
7. million ...
8. Set of tools
9. Daydream
10. Ascended
11. Acting group
12. noble
13. family
14. Char
15. Festive
16. Some shoes
17. Showy flower
18. Niagara's
19. tourist draw
20. Prospero's servant
21. Clinto
22. David's weapon
23. Speak pompously
24. To chance
25. Goodman's music
26. Cogitate
27. See 4D
28. Turned down
29. Healthy color
30. Stritch or May
31. Empty
32. Inclined
33. Director Kazan
34. Shopper's haven
35. Poor grades
36. Delly

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

SNAP, CLAPS, PRAM
MEMO, DIARRA, RUM
ORES, HAVEL, ETON
BASINS, EMBESSED
UNITY, OUIE
COMPOSED, LAMYES
OLE, STRIP, STONE
SLANT, SLEAZ, STON
TIMES, STRAP, EKE
SETTER, STRANDED
HAIN, YETI
SILENCER, BECKON
ODOR, RATTI, EAVE
ALIE, EIDER, SLEW
PENIO, EIDER, TERS



Zola Budd

IAAF bans Zola Budd

AUCKLAND (R) — South African born runner Zola Budd has been temporarily withdrawn from international athletics, the sport's governing body said on Friday. John Holt, general secretary of the International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF), told a news conference Budd would not be allowed to run until an IAAF conference next month considered her eligibility to run for Britain.

"This is a temporary withdrawal, it is not a suspension," Holt told journalists attending the World Cross-country Championships.

Budd, who is alleged to have violated IAAF rules by taking part in events last year in South Africa, was forced to withdraw from the championships last week under pressure from the IAAF after a threatened boycott from African nations.

Holt said that while Budd may not have taken part in a race in South Africa, as had originally been thought, her mere presence at a meeting in the racially-segregated republic was an infringement of IAAF regulations.

Arthur Eustace, an IAAF council member, also indicated that Budd might take the case of her eligibility to court.

"We have a sworn affidavit from Zola Budd which has not in any way conflicted with the evidence the IAAF has," Holt said.

"She gave us an affidavit saying I was not a competitor on the starting line and I did not compete in South Africa. We accept that."

British official accuses IAAF

In London, leading British athletics official Tony Ward accused the IAAF Friday of changing its rules on Budd.

"The IAAF has consistently altered its stance on this issue," Ward, the spokesman for the British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB), said.

"You cannot manipulate the rules in order to suit a particular political or moral view."

"First, they accused her of competing in South Africa, then after discovering that was not true, accused her of merely taking part. Once you start on that slippery slope how far do you go?"

Budd's coach John Bryant said Budd had been nothing more than a spectator at a meeting in South Africa.

He said if that constituted breaking rules then it was a new rule she had broken.

Liverpool back to square one

LONDON (AP) — Its record-equalling unbeaten streak now ended, Liverpool returns to basics Saturday with the consolation that it probably will have the English Soccer League title sewn up earlier than usual.

Despite tumbling to their first defeat of the season at neighbour Everton last Sunday, the Merseyside stars hold a 14-point lead atop the Division One standings and, with their rivals struggling to close the gap, they could lose half their remaining ten games yet still win the title.

With 73 points from 30 games, Liverpool needs a further 14 to ensure that the chasing teams, Manchester United, Everton, Nottingham Forest, Arsenal and Queens Park Rangers and Wimbledon cannot catch up.

And that's assuming the chasing teams win all their remaining games.

Three points count for a victory in English soccer, and such is Liverpool's lead, no team lower than seventh-placed Wimbledon has even a mathematical chance of winning the title.

With a quarter of the season remaining, they cannot match Liverpool's current points total and Wimbledon, with 48 from 30, will also slip out of the race if it loses to Liverpool at Anfield Saturday.

Wimbledon, which also is on course to meet Liverpool in the F.A. Cup final at Wembley pro-

vided both teams win their semi-finals, will be heartened by the leader's last two results.

A 1-1 tie at Derby County and last Sunday's 1-0 defeat at champion Everton adds up to just one point from a possible six.

Player-manager Kenny Dalglish was furious that his side threw away a victory at Derby, despite the fact that the tie enabled Liverpool to equal Leeds United's record of 29 games unbeaten from the start of the season.

After the streak-snapping defeat at Everton, Dalglish, whose side is chasing its second league and F.A. Cup double in three years, said: "Really, the record doesn't mean anything at all. You don't get anything other than a place in the history books."

Midfielder Steve McMahon said he felt a sense of relief now that the unbeaten streak had ended. "At least we are not going to be hearing about this all the time from now on."

"Now people can give us a bit of peace and let us get on with winning the title," he said.

That title, which would be Liverpool's ninth in the last 13 years, should come a step nearer

Saturday. Liverpool has allowed just two teams to sneak a tie at its Anfield home in 14 games, while Wimbledon has shown inconsistent away form.

While Liverpool and Wimbledon do battle at Anfield, second-placed Manchester United hosts struggling West Ham United. Everton travels to bottom club Watford, Nottingham Forest visits eighth-placed Tottenham Hotspur. Arsenal travels to lowly Derby and Queens Park Rangers visit relegation-threatened Portsmouth.

The other Division One matchups Saturday are Charlton Athletic-Oxford United, Chelsea-Southampton, Newcastle United-Coventry City and Norwich City-Sheffield Wednesday.

The Charlton-Oxford game is likely to be a fierce relegation dog-fight.

With only one defeat in its last six games, Charlton, which narrowly missed relegation last season, has clambered out of the bottom three for the first time in more than a year.

But Oxford, which also flirted with relegation last term, has failed to win in 16 games and has slipped to next-to-bottom in the standings.

In Scotland, Premier Division leader Glasgow Celtic bids to extend its six-point lead over rival Rangers with a home game against Dundee United. Rangers visit Dundee.

Werder to clash with Bayern

Reuters

WEST GERMAN League leaders Werder Bremen receive champions for the past three seasons Bayern Munich Saturday in a crunch match which could go a long way towards deciding the destiny of this year's title.

Werder trainer Otto Rehnhagel gambled Wednesday by resting three players for a game at Borussia Dortmund.

The gamble more or less paid off because Werder came away with a 0-0 draw while Bayern failed to make up ground, throwing away a 2-0 lead to draw 2-2 with third-placed Cologne in Munich.

But Bayern have pulled back from a five-point deficit a month ago and now trail by just two points. Rehnhagel knows a win is virtually essential if Werder is to win the title for the first time since 1965.

He will need no reminding that Werder had the championship within their grasp two years ago

but defender Michael Kutzop hit the post with a last minute penalty in Bremen against Bayern in the penultimate match of the season and the Munich side went on to win the title yet again.

Ufarte faces test

In Spain, Armando Ufarte faces a testing start to his new job as coach to Atletico Madrid as he takes a heavily depleted side to Sporting Gijon, who lie halfway down the table.

Atletico, who earlier this week sacked former Argentine national coach Luis Menotti after six games without a win, are now 11 points behind League leaders Real Madrid, though still lie third.

Atletico will be without Portuguese striker Paulo Futre and defender Tomas Renones, both serving an automatic one-match suspension after being penalised last weekend.

Ufarte will also be without Marcos Alonso, Roberto Marina, Andoni Goikoetxea, all injured, and Brazil's Ricardo Alemao is

doubtful.

Milan to meet Avellino

In Italy, AC Milan could narrow the gap on champions Napoli when they travel to second-from-bottom Avellino Sunday. Of the three teams in contention for the title, Milan have by far the easiest-looking task.

Diego Maradona's Napoli, four points clear of Milan on 38, face a difficult journey away to sixth-placed Torino, while Roma, third on 33, take on Internazionale in Milan.

Milan's Dutch European footballer of the year Ruud Gullit suffered a calf strain in Wednesday's 2-2 European Championship warm-up between England and The Netherlands.

In France, leaders Monaco seek to erase last week's defeat by chief rivals Bordeaux when they host Toulon Saturday.

Second-placed Bordeaux, away to Cannes, have a harder job to slice further into Monaco's three-point lead.

Argentina heads to Europe for soccer melee

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina's world champion soccer squad Thursday headed for West Germany and a four-way friendly soccer clash with the local team, the Soviet Union and Sweden.

Argentine coach Carlos Bilardo said shortly before leaving it would be very difficult to replace midfielder Jorge Burruchaga, who plays for Mantes of France and was not available.

Forward Jorge Valdano, who has played for Real Madrid, also will not make it to the tournament.

"But it is clear that the fact that they will not be there hurts us because along with (Diego) Maradona, these are the men who make our goals," Bilardo said.

Maradona, the team captain, would lead the Argentine squad along with defender Jose Luis Brown, both playing for Euro-

pean clubs. The squad Bilardo took from Argentina included goalies Nery Pumpido and Luis Islas defenders Oscar Ruggeri, Pedro Monzon, Oscar Garre, Nestor Clausen and Luis Cuciuffo midfielders Julio Olaricoechea, Sergio Batista, Ricardo Giusti, Pedro Troglio and Dario Svisky and forwards Hernan Diaz, Claudio Caniggia, Luis Rodriguez and Oscar Der-

ticia.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Get ready for the greatest back massage of your life!"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GUAVE
MUBIE
CAPALA
SIBULY



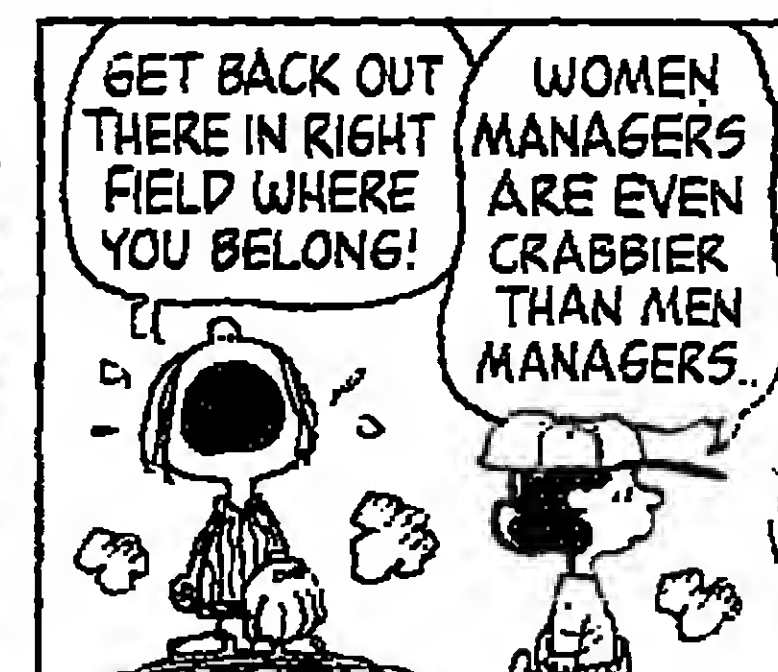
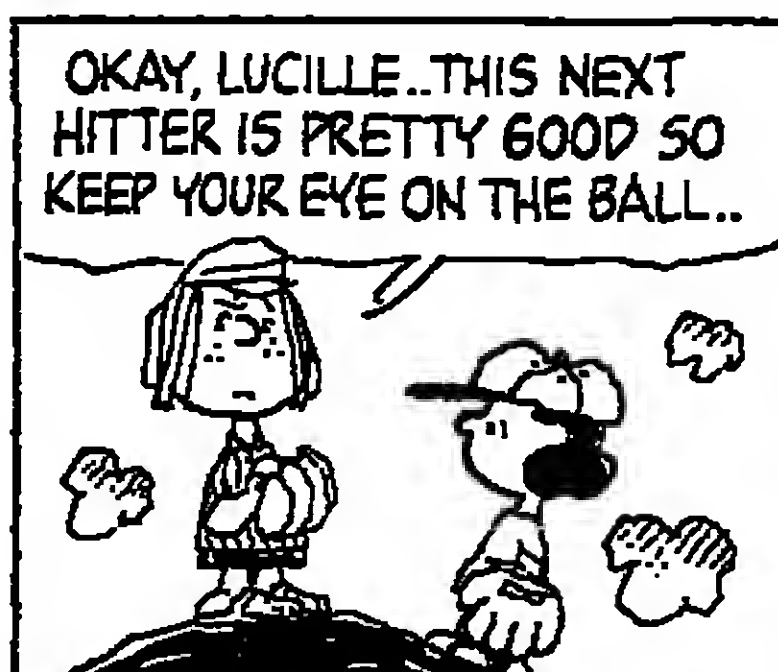
WHAT MAKES YOU SICK IF YOU TAKE AWAY THE FIRST LETTER?

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

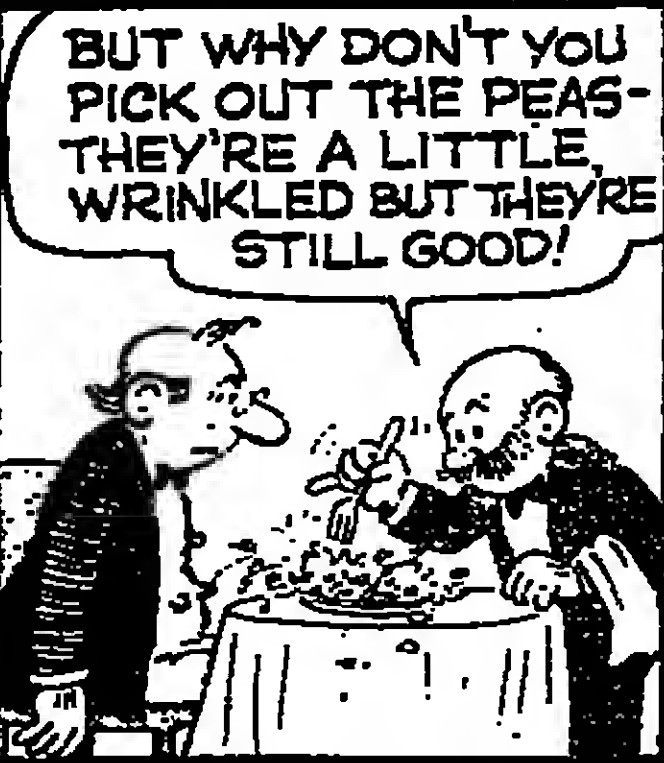
Print answer here: "□-□□□□"

Yesterday's Jumbles: IRONY AUDIT DEVICE GUNNER
Answer: He hated to take his car out in such weather, although they called it this—A "DRIVING" RAIN

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Soviet troops sent to Armenia ahead of planned protest

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet troops have been sent into Yerevan, the capital of Armenia, ahead of a mass demonstration planned for Saturday, officials said Friday.

An Armenian Interior Ministry official reached by telephone in Yerevan said helicopters were patrolling over the city.

He was asked to confirm reports from Armenian activists that soldiers had been deployed ahead of the demonstration, called to demand that the Azerbaijani region of Nagorno-Karabakh be made part of Armenia.

"Yes, but I can't give you any information about this," he replied.

The official, who declined to give his name, said the city appeared "fairly calm."

Telephone links from Moscow to Yerevan have worked only sporadically for two days, and Western reporters have been banned from travelling to the

area since late February, when crowds of up to one million demonstrated in Yerevan.

Telephone calls to Western reporters from dissident sources in Moscow with contacts in Armenia have also been cut off since Thursday in an apparent partial communications blackout.

As a result, it was not known whether the Karabakh Committee organising the Yerevan protests was proceeding with plans to hold the demonstration Saturday.

New rules issued Thursday require people wishing to hold a demonstration to apply for permission 10 days in advance. This would make the new action illegal if it takes place.

Press officials in Baku, the Azerbaijani capital, told Reuters simi-

lar rules on mass gatherings had been adopted in the republic, Armenia's neighbour in Soviet Transcaucasia.

They also said the Azerbaijani authorities had dissolved an organising committee formed in Nagorno-Karabakh last month. The group, called the Krunk Committee, was accused of inciting people to stage anti-Soviet mass disturbances.

The Kremlin issued a statement Wednesday condemning "nationalistic and extremist manifestations" and saying it was intolerable for non-official groups to demand border changes.

The statement instructed the government to draft a plan to improve living conditions in Nagorno-Karabakh, but it appeared from the press that the plan had been worked out in advance.

First Deputy Prime Minister Vladimir Lakhin told the government newspaper Izvestia that

400 million roubles (\$670 million) in capital investments would be injected into the region over seven years.

Lakhin said "painful questions" about granting the region greater political autonomy should also be resolved but this was outside the government's authority, suggesting the matter would be decided by Communist Party leaders in Moscow and Azerbaijan.

Zori Balayan, one of two leading Armenian writers who discussed the regional dispute with Gorbachev last month, wrote in Izvestia that he approved of the plan. His support could help defuse further protests in Yerevan.

But a letter to Izvestia signed by four prominent Soviet intellectuals said the full truth had not yet been told about the Sumgait bloodshed and warned that "new mistakes and crimes" could follow if the facts continued to be suppressed.

Opposition leader vows to get rid of Noriega

PANAMA CITY (AP) — An opposition leader returned to Panama vowing to rid the nation of military strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega, whose cash-strapped government faces payday for its soldiers Friday.

Ricardo Arias Calderon, head of the Christian Democratic Party, arrived Thursday to find Panama in the midst of an anti-Noriega general strike, now in its fifth day, which has shut down more than 90 per cent of business and industry.

Noriega is the country's de facto leader by virtue of his influence as chief of the 15,000-strong defence forces.

On Friday, he must pay his troops. On Monday, he must come up with more money for retirees already forced to wait an extra week for their pensions.

A banking source who spoke on condition of anonymity said Thursday that the government had pleaded with local banks to hand over an estimated \$70 million in their vaults. But the banks said the money belonged to their depositors and they could not legally give it up.

On Thursday, Roman Catholic Archbishop Marcos G. McGrath met with Noriega. Church officials were expected to release a statement today on the meeting.

McGrath had refused to discuss the talks, saying only that he was not negotiating Noriega's departure.

'One objective'

Only hours afterward, Arias Calderon arrived on a commercial flight from Miami and told a cheering crowd that Noriega must go.

His return had "but one objective — to get rid of Noriega," Arias Calderon said. He was accompanied by Christian Democratic leaders from Venezuela, Costa Rica and West Germany.

Arias Calderon, a likely presidential candidate in scheduled May 1989 elections, said he would meet with other opposition leaders to plan a strategy for ousting Noriega.

A month ago, the government refused to allow Arias Calderon to return to Panama, which he had left on a brief business trip.

The government stepped up its propaganda attacks Thursday against the United States and its military presence along the Panama Canal. The state radio station again urged Panamanians — particularly soldiers and youth — to be on guard against "any aggression by the United States."

The last of 670 military police and support personnel arrived Thursday at U.S. bases to beef up security.

Southern Command officials had said earlier the reinforcements were "simply good planning in view of the current unrest in Panama."

No plans for military action

U.S. President Ronald Reagan said Thursday he had no plans to take military action to get rid of Noriega.

"We're not going to be the big colossus of the North once again, coming in to ... our smaller neighbours' places of living and business and trying to guide and direct them," Reagan said.

Nicaragua decides to settle dispute alone

NEWS ANALYSIS

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaragua's Sandinista government and U.S.-backed rebels have reached a preliminary peace accord based partly on the realisation that neither the United States nor the Soviet Union makes a dependable ally, diplomats say.

Approving the accord Wednesday, government and rebel leaders expressed weariness with the war, agreeing the time had come for Nicaraguans to settle the dispute on their own.

"In this conflict, which has been imposed on Nicaragua, the victims are Nicaraguans the dead, the wounded, the mutilated are Nicaraguans," Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega said.

Rebel leader Adolfo Calero said the accord, which provides for a 60-day truce starting on April 1 pending more talks on a permanent ceasefire, was made "for the good of Nicaragua."

The accord coincided with setbacks suffered in the war by the contra rebels, whose number is estimated at 12,000.

They have blamed their misfortunes on the United States, which has funded them on and off since 1981. The U.S. Congress recently cut off supplies despite strong White House lobbying.

The government, which has been backed by the Soviet Union, was facing its worst economic crisis and growing public discontent. Government officials said privately they were concerned Moscow did not care.

Diplomats saw the accord as a blow to U.S. policy in Nicaragua. The White House claims the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) is a Communist dictatorship that cannot be trusted to keep any bargain.

In signing the accord, the rebels appeared to be acting independently of their main backers.

They agreed not to request any more military aid at the same time that President Reagan was portraying such aid as vital in his campaign to persuade Congress to reverse its rejection of further assistance to the contras.

A big Sandinista offensive against the rebels on the northern Honduran border last week drove home the government's message that if the contras did not talk peace, they could face complete military defeat.

Both sides made concessions in the accord. But diplomats expressed surprise the contras had withdrawn demands for sweeping political and military reforms made in previous talks, including a call for the reconstitution of the Sandinista army.

"They went for the best deal they could get right now," said one European diplomat.

The agreement implied the contras believed they could coexist with the Sandinistas, despite warnings from Washington there can be no real democracy with the FSLN in power.

The accord provides for reintegration of contra guerrillas into society, allowing them to take part in political life.

A permanent truce is to be agreed once a special commission has verified that all the provisions of a regional peace agreement signed in Guatemala last year have been implemented.

The Guatemala accord calls for elections in accordance with each country's constitutional timetable, allowing Nicaragua's Ortega to stay in power until 1990.

Government concessions included allowing the immediate return of thousands of political exiles and the release of 100 political prisoners immediately, and others after the rebels have moved into special ceasefire zones.

Soviet official pledges no interference in Philippines

MANILA (R) — Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev met Philippine President Corason Aquino Thursday and declared Moscow would not try to influence the Philippines in its negotiations on U.S. military bases.

"The Philippine government probably knows better what to tell the other superpower," Rogachev told reporters after a 40-minute meeting with Aquino at the presidential palace.

"One of our principles... is

non-interference in Philippine affairs," he said when asked if he tried to persuade Aquino to remove the two bases, major military installations maintained by Washington under an agreement which runs out in 1991.

However Leticia Ramos-Shahani, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said the discussions with Rogachev were "useful" to negotiations on the bases set to start on April 5.

Vietnam says 74 still missing in island attack

BANGKOK (AP) — Vietnam says 74 of its soldiers remained missing after Chinese warships attacked them in the South China Sea and accused China of sinking three freighters, then firing on crewmen drifting in the sea.

Vietnam's official domestic radio, giving further details of the March 14 clash in the Spratly Islands, said the Chinese killed a number of Vietnamese soldiers and that armed provocations against Vietnamese ships were

continuing.

A text of Thursday's broadcast was obtained from a Western embassy in Bangkok Friday.

Each side has accused the other of starting the clashes in the disputed islands, which China calls the Nansha Islands and Vietnam calls the Truong Sa Archipelago. On Thursday China, which has also acknowledged suffering some casualties, rejected Vietnam's offer for talks to settle the dispute.

Tutu threatens to sue Botha

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — The Anglican Church sought legal advice Friday about suing South African President P.W. Botha for statements linking Archbishop Desmond Tutu to guerrilla atrocities in South Africa, a spokesman said.

Both fired a new salvo in his war of words against anti-government churches Thursday, adding a veiled threat of action against clergymen judged guilty of subversion.

Both charged in a letter to South African Council of Churches leader Reverend Frank Chikane that he and Tutu, a Nobel Peace laureate, backed violence by the outlawed African National Congress (ANC) and South African Communist Party (SACP).

"The president's letter links Archbishop Desmond in the public mind to landmines, bombs, necklaces, hatred and revolution," Tutu's spokesman, John Allen, told Reuters.

He said a preliminary legal consultation indicated the church might have a case against Botha and said that if further consultations Friday supported this view "we will take Mr. Botha... to the cleaners."

Mandela willing to meet Buthe

Also Thursday, Winnie Mandela offered to meet Zulu Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi in an attempt to unite South Africa's feuding factions in the struggle



Archbishop Desmond Tutu

against apartheid.

In a speech signalling a new black response to the government's recent crackdown on anti-apartheid organisations, she told students at Johannesburg's Witwatersrand University it was time blacks closed ranks.

"It is necessary for us to look at our own ranks, clean up our own house to see whether we have the unity to fight this racist regime," the wife of jailed nationalist Nelson Mandela said.

Later she told reporters that her appeal for unity extended to meeting Buthelezi, whose Inkatha movement has been locked in a bloody power struggle with supporters of the pro-Mandela United Democratic Front (UDF).

The more militant UDF and Inkatha are bitterly divided over anti-apartheid strategy and their



Winnie Mandela

battle for the Zulu tribal heartland of Natal has left more than 400 dead.

Mandela said it was "time to stop these senseless killings" and she was prepared to meet Buthelezi if she was given a mandate, apparently from the ANC.

Her speech, in which she said blacks should make 1988 the year of unity, coincided with a strong attack on the ANC by Buthelezi.

He told the KwaZulu Homeland's legislative assembly there were now irreconcilable differences between Inkatha and the ANC, which he said sought to dominate South Africa's blacks.

Challenging ANC leader Oliver Tambo, Buthelezi declared: "I throw down a gauntlet and say if you want a fight you have got one."

Mandela, a part-time sociology student at Witwatersrand University, was addressing a rally of about 2,000 people to protest last week's detention without trial of university student leader Rosemary Hunter.

Mine managers acquitted

In another development, a South African court acquitted six managers of a major mining company of culpable homicide Thursday after they were charged with causing the deaths of 177 miners in the country's worst gold mine disaster.

The six were all officials at General Mining Union Corporation's Kinross mine where a fire swept through underground tunnels in 1986, spreading toxic fumes that resulted in the highest

death toll in South Africa's gold mining history.

A seventh employee, Frederick Viviers, a welder at Kinross, was found guilty on two charges of contravening mining regulations and fined 100 rand (\$50).

The mine's manager, Jacobus Olivier, and General Mining Director John Bourke were both cleared of culpable homicide and spate of charges under South Africa's Mines and Works Act.

The others acquitted were three underground managers and a subordinate manager.

The court found that the fire was caused when a gas cutting torch ignited a foam lining in one of the mine's main underground tunnels. The burning foam sent deadly fumes shooting through the underground workings, causing most of the deaths.

A magistrate found that the managers could not be held responsible because no one at the mine had known they had been supplied with the foam, which is banned in British coal mines as a safety hazard.

The disaster prompted the 300,000-member black National Union of Mineworkers to accuse South Africa's white mining companies, particularly General Mining, of negligence and slack safety standards.

Neo-fascist rally banned

On Friday, South Africa banned a political rally planned by ultra-conservative whites invoking sweeping security legislation for the first time against the neo-fascist Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB).

A magistrate in the conservative mining town of Randfontein, west of Johannesburg, declared that the outdoor rally had been banned under the Internal Security Act.

AWB leader Eugene Terreblanche vowed that an indoor meeting would still take place in the town Friday, despite the ban.

Pretoria has issued numerous warnings to the AWB — whose emblem is a swastika-like symbol — to curb its political activities, but has not acted against the group until now.

Outgoing NATO chief: Few regrets and relief

By Richard Balmforth
Reuter

BRUSSELS — NATO Secretary-General Lord Carrington steps down soon with few personal regrets and palpable relief that a tough job is over.

"It is sometimes quite frustrating that you have to get everybody on board. All you can do is try to persuade people, because there is no other way," Carrington says, looking back on four years in the top NATO job.

The 68-year-old former British foreign secretary steps down after piloting the Atlantic alliance through a heady period of soul-searching in which officials say he has demonstrated formidable diplomatic skills.

Amid disarray over nuclear policy, he worked with fretful allies whose mood, he said in an interview, can swing erratically "from euphoria to disillusion."

Brisk and business-like but sensitive to the individual dilemmas of member nations, Carrington has been everything from couch psychiatrist to ring-master, officials say.

U.S. President Reagan said at a NATO summit earlier this month that Carrington had steered the 16-nation alliance "with a steadiness that has earned our unbounded admiration."

With a paramount need to project an image of allied unity, Carrington has been unequalled in defusing clashes and winning consensus on tricky decisions,

officials say.

"He's used that aristocratic charm and wit to mollify, soothe over tricky issues. He's been careful not to force people to jump when they don't have to but good at getting them to jump when they do," said a NATO diplomat.

Challenges, frustrations

In an interview with Reuters, Carrington — grey-haired and sprightly with twinkling blue eyes and an aristocratic drawl — spoke of the job's challenges, but also its frustrations.

Asked about the differences between being a government minister and NATO chief, Carrington said: "This [job] is quite different because you can never tell anybody to do anything," Carrington said.

"At least as a minister you had a good many things you could tell people to do and some powers of decision to alter things one way or another," he said.

Officials say that after a high-flying political career, he felt restricted as chief executive in a multi-national organisation in which he has no "hire-and-fire" powers and no real hand in formulating policy.

He has resisted pleas by the allies to extend his stay and will hand over to West German Defence Minister Manfred Woerner next June.

Carrington is an art lover, and his office is adorned with Victorian masterpieces. He is taking up a post as chairman of a art au-

thors Christie's.

He is a respected elder statesman with ideal credentials for the NATO post — but he came on the market through a quirk of politics.

An hereditary baron, he had held several ministerial posts including that of defence secretary when Margaret Thatcher chose him as foreign secretary in her first government.



Lord Carrington

He went on to earn a place in history in 1979 by engineering a Rhodesian peace settlement and overseeing a transition to black-ruled Zimbabwe.

But in 1982 he abruptly resigned — a political scapegoat for Argentina's seizure of the British South Atlantic colony of the Falklands. Two years later he accepted the NATO job.

He took over from Dutchman Joseph Luns who ran NATO for

13 years and whose cold warrior style placed the accent firmly on its military side.

Primacy of politics

Sensing the need for change, Carrington set about reasserting the primacy of the political side of the alliance.

He feels he has succeeded. "If you lose sight of the political aspects of NATO and you say this alliance is only a military alliance then you'll lose support very quickly..."

Many fear that the appointment of Woerner, who has a pronounced military background could mark a throw-back to the Luns days. But Carrington enthusiastically endorses the choice.

He began his term by re-stating the priorities of defence and East-West dialogue, and he added a third one — the need to shore up what he termed "West-West" relations between Europe and the United States.

He believes arms control progress has helped win greater support by the average Western citizen for the alliance and he never tires of saying that NATO is "in good shape."

He sees the U.S. bombing of Tripoli in April 1986 which caused a major rift between the Europeans and the United States as a low point.

A common thread in the 76 public speeches he has made — 14 of them delivered in the United States — is the need for constant servicing of the U.S.-European relationship.

With the dry wit for which he is renowned, he once said his office was situated between the two continents in Mid-Atlantic — "cold and wet and lonely."

"The alliance is based on the transatlantic link. If that goes, the alliance goes," he said in his interview.

Latterly, his job focused on calming allied anxieties over the implications of U.S.-Soviet arms control accords for nuclear strategy.

But he is a passionate believer in the nuclear deterrent. "I'd fight to the death to keep it," he said.

Carrington thinks NATO has been slow to counter the public relations challenge posed by Gorbachev.

"We are dealing with a man who is extremely good with the media and he has managed to convince people all of these things [arms proposals] are his idea," he said.

Insurance

He readily acknowledges that the idea of the Soviet Union launching a surprise attack against NATO is an unlikely one — but he always justifies alliance strategy by saying that NATO is "in the insurance business."

"If you go out of your house and leave it empty you lock the front door and bar the windows. Just because you haven't had a burglary for five years, you don't leave the front door open and stop your insurance policy," he said.

COLUMN

2 million smokers could die

PEKING (R) — Smoking-related deaths in China could hit two million a year unless rules to stop the habit are introduced, the New China News Agency said. Smoking is considered a social grace in China, where the number of addicts continues to rise and even children under 10 try cigarettes, the agency said. Smoking by primary and middle school children should be forbidden, and the state should decree other ways of reducing cigarette consumption, the agency quoted the vice chairman of a public health campaign committee as saying. China, where an estimated 70 per cent of adult men smoke, is the world's biggest consumer of tobacco.

Horrors at Heathrow

LONDON (R) — Travellers using the world's busiest international airport — Heathrow — are confronted by gastronomic horrors including fish pie smelling of compost and chocolate cake reminiscent of sawdust, food experts said Wednesday. Veteran restaurant critic Egon Ronay, who conducted a survey of eating establishments at Heathrow, said the food some of them offered was "fit only for the dustbin. A disastrous corned beef roll was the acme of crudity. The chocolate cake sawdust with a shaving cream topping. The grilled halibut was dry and devoid of taste and the cauliflower was an absolute disgrace," said Ronay's report for the British Gastronomic Academy, of which he is president. Ronay said one restaurant served fish pie "which smelt of a compost heap, and the turkey sandwiches were so disgusting they had to be spat out. At a self-service cafeteria "there was a breakfast cook who hated his customers, stewed tea, long queues and cold food," he added. Others served food "fit only for the dustbin. The quite appalling pastries were inedible rubbish."

Record coke haul

MADRID (AP) — Police have seized a record 350 kilograms (770 pounds) of cocaine and arrested at least 12 foreigners in the largest single drug haul ever in Europe, police said Friday. A police press spokeswoman contacted by telephone confirmed the haul carried out Thursday and reported Friday by Spanish newspapers. The Madrid daily El Pais Friday cited unnamed police sources as saying police located the cocaine with an estimated street value of \$45 million in a warehouse in an unnamed suburb of the Spanish capital. The haul may be the largest ever in Europe.

Eliminating the evidence

JAKARTA (R) — Two men convicted of murdering and eating the body of a man they accused of stealing 31 of their horses have been sentenced to prison on Indonesia's island of Timor, the newspaper Kompas reported Thursday. The alleged mastermind of the murder received a life sentence, while his accomplice was sentenced to 20 years. The two men cut the victim's body into pieces and ate some of it before burning the rest, the court was told. They ate the man's body to show their anger and to eliminate evidence of their crime, a police spokesman said.

Therapy doubles survival rate

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida (AP) — Scientists have doubled the five-year survival rate of early-stage lung cancer patients by activating their immune systems to attack cancerous cells, a researcher reports. Patients who received the experimental therapy showed a 63 per cent survival rate five years after cancer surgery, compared with 33 per cent for patients who received no treatment after surgery, said Ariel Hollinshead of the George Washington University Medical Centre. "It's come off very well," Hollinshead said earlier in the week after describing results to science writers at an American Cancer Society symposium.

Surgery to remove lung cancer tumors often leaves cancer cells behind. In the new treatment, patients were injected after surgery with proteins drawn from other lung cancer tumors. Those antibodies helped the body defend against cancer cells left behind by surgery, Hollinshead said.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

NATO, Warsaw Pact progress in arms talks

VIENNA (R) — NATO and Warsaw Pact delegates completed Thursday a round of talks that made some progress on setting up a new forum for negotiations on reducing conventional forces in Europe, diplomats said. Ambassador Stephen Ledogar, the U.S. delegate to the informal Vienna talks involving 23 nations, told a news conference that a preamble for the new negotiations had been provisionally agreed. The 23 nations from the North Atlantic Treaty Alliance (NATO) and the Warsaw Pact also reached agreement Thursday on the right to on-site inspection and an exchange of information, diplomats said.

Rescuers free students from train wreck

SHANGHAI (R) — Rescue workers battled darkness and thick fog to free Japanese students from the wreck of a train that crashed near Shanghai, killing 28 people and injuring 165, Chinese officials and Japanese diplomats said Friday. They told Reuters that rescuers from the railway ministry, army and police used makeshift electric lamps, working late into the night Thursday, to pull injured from the twisted train.

Premier calls for punishing Tibetans

PEKING (R) — Chinese Acting Premier Li Peng called Friday for severe punishment of Tibetan nationalists who took part in anti-China rioting this month. "The recent riot in Lhasa created by a handful of separatists was a grave incident that violated the law and undermined the unity of the motherland," Li told the opening session of China's annual meeting of parliament. "The rioters must be severely punished," Li told the 2,900 delegates.

Irish surrender film of attack

BELFAST (R) — The Irish Republic's RTE broadcasting service said Thursday it gave British police film of an attack that ended with the lynching of two soldiers at an Irish Republican Army funeral. Britain's two television networks — the British Broadcasting Corp. and Independent Television News — complied Wednesday with similar demands for unbroadcast footage from the funeral. All three networks initially refused to hand over unbroadcast film, contending it would endanger their crews when covering violence in the British-ruled province. But they complied after the Royal Ulster Constabulary, the provincial police force, threatened court action under British "anti-terrorist" legislation.

'Chernobyl of Soviet culture'

MOSCOW (R) — A leading Soviet academician disclosed Thursday that a fire at a prestigious Leningrad Library had destroyed hundreds of thousands of books in what he called "a Chernobyl of our culture." Dmitry Likhachev, who heads the official Soviet Cultural Foundation, told the weekly Moscow News that library officials had deliberately deceived the authorities, calling in bulldozers to clear away books not already ruined by fire or water. Likhachev said the fire, which raged for 19 hours on Feb. 15, had destroyed 400,000 books 188,000 of them foreign, wiped out a collection of medical literature dating to the 17th century and burned up one quarter of the library's unique newspaper collection. Rare Russian and Oriental volumes and the entire reference section were ruined as 25 fire engines pumped water into the building for